

## Luce in Bahrain, cuts Qatar visit

BAHRAIN (R) — Britain's minister of state for foreign affairs, Richard Luce, arrived here from Kuwait Tuesday for a brief visit and talks with Bahraini leaders, officials said. Mr. Luce, who has also visited Damascus, had been scheduled to visit the Gulf state of Qatar but he cut short his tour because of the situation in Lebanon and was flying home late Tuesday night. The officials said his talks here would cover Lebanon, the Gulf war and other Middle East issues. Before leaving Kuwait, Mr. Luce told a news conference Britain supported the right of peacekeeping forces in Lebanon to self-defence but urged maximum restraint.

British opposition to Lebanon role rises, page 2

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## Israelis arrest 18 Palestinians

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli security forces arrested 18 Palestinians during the night at the West Bank refugee camp of Al Aroub for hurling stones at military vehicles, military officials said Tuesday. Security officials said the 18 Palestinians also had stoned Israeli vehicles in previous incidents.

## Beirut English daily reappears

BEIRUT (R) — The English-language Daily Star newspaper appeared again on the streets of Beirut Tuesday, eight years after it was closed by heavy street fighting in the city. The Daily Star, founded in 1952, ceased publication at the height of the 1975-76 civil war when staff could no longer reach its downtown offices. The Daily Star said the last edition to be published was on Dec. 6, 1975, eight years ago to the day.

## New Turkish Cypriot assembly convenes

NICOSIA (R) — The self-proclaimed Turkish Cypriot republic's new constituent assembly met for the first time Tuesday to begin preparing a constitution for the internationally-recognized state. The old elected 40-seat legislature in the Turkish sector of the divided island voted last week, despite strong opposition from leftist parties, to dissolve itself and form instead a 70-seat constituent assembly.

## Klibi briefs Iraqi president

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and Arab League Secretary-General Chadi Klibi Tuesday discussed the Gulf war and the Middle East situation, the Iraqi News Agency reported. It said Mr. Klibi briefed President Hussein on his contacts with other Arab countries on finding a new date for an Arab summit due to have been held in Riyadh last month, which was postponed because of inter-Arab differences.

## One charged for London gold robbery

LONDON (R) — A security officer was charged Tuesday with complicity in Britain's biggest robbery, the theft of £26.4 million (\$38 million) in gold and diamonds. Anthony Black, 31, who worked in a security firm's warehouse where the 6,800 stolen gold bars were stored, was charged before a London magistrate's court. Early last Nov. 26, six hooded men with pistols took the haul from the warehouse near London's Heathrow airport after forcing the guards to help them bypass the security system.

## McGovern says U.S. led to war

CHICAGO (R) — Democratic presidential candidate George McGovern said Tuesday that President Reagan was leading the United States into war. "We're in war in all but name in the Middle East right now," Mr. McGovern told a Chicago meeting. "I'm fully convinced they (the Reagan administration) are taking the country straight into war."

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## Arafat loyalists, rebels both claim responsibility 4 killed, 46 injured in Jerusalem explosion

**OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Four people were killed and 46 injured when a bomb exploded on a crowded bus in the Jewish area of Jerusalem Sunday and rival groups of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) claimed responsibility for the blast.**

The explosion blasted the roof off the single-decker bus, hurling wreckage 100 metres and injuring passengers in another bus behind. Many of the injured suffered serious burns and internal injuries, doctors said. The explosion aboard the bus occurred on a busy, four-lane road near an Israeli military cemetery in the western part of Jerusalem. One of the injured, her face smeared with blood, told Reuters: "I was sitting in the front of the bus. It all just blew up."

## Syria says 2 Israeli drones downed

DAMASCUS (R) — Syria said it shot down two pilotless Israeli drones flying over Syrian positions in eastern Lebanon and southern Syria Tuesday. The official Syrian news agency SANA quoted a military spokesman as saying the two drones were intercepted by Syrian air defences and shot down. One of the two planes was brought down in the Anjar area of eastern Lebanon, near the Syrian border, and the other in Deir Al Zor in southern Syria, it said. Lebanese military sources earlier said one Israeli drone on a reconnaissance mission was shot down by a surface-to-air missile over the Syrian-held Bekaa Valley in eastern Lebanon Tuesday morning.

## East bloc assails U.S. action

VIENNA (R) — Bulgaria and Czechoslovakia said Tuesday the U.S. bombing of Syrian positions in Lebanon was aimed at securing the region for military action against the Soviet bloc and accused Washington of waging a second Vietnam war.

The official Bulgarian newspaper Otechestven Front said the U.S. military presence in Lebanon was part of "global strategic plans for establishing a network of military bases in proximity of the Soviet Union and the socialist countries."

Washington's intention was to convert the Middle East into a launching pad for military operations against the Warsaw Pact countries, the official BTA news agency quoted the newspaper as saying.

The U.S. bombing of Syrian positions this week was a "gross and flagrant provocation" against Mideast peace and security and part of a U.S.-Israeli strategy worked out during Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's visit to Washington last week, the Bulgarian army daily Narodna Armia added.

In Prague, the Czechoslovak Communist Party daily Rude Pravo said: "The U.S. bombing bore the same characteristics as the earlier shelling of Lebanese mountains from U.S. ships and as the U.S. air cannibalism in Vietnam."

If the (multinational peace-keeping) force from NATO countries really had something in common with peace, it would strive to end the Israeli occupation (of Lebanon) but it does just the opposite," Rude Pravo said.

Stalinist Albania, which attacks both superpowers equally as imperialists, also compared the U.S. action to the Vietnam war.

U.S.-Israeli military co-ordination denied, page 2

blast threw three passengers to the other side of the street. Others were dragged from the charred wreckage, their faces cut by flying splinters.

## Responsibility claims

Rival wings of the PLO both claimed responsibility for the blast. Supporters of embattled PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat made the claim in a statement reported by the PLO news agency Wafa and issued in Nicosia.

Wafa quoted a Palestinian military spokesman as saying the bomb was planted by a guerrilla unit of the "Martyr Halim" command. But a spokesman for the Syrian-backed rebel movement against Mr. Arafat later told Reuters in Damascus that the raid was carried out by the "Martyr Bajes Abu Atwan" group.

The spokesman, who declined

to be named, said the group was part of the anti-Arafat rebel movement headed by Colonel Sa'ed Musa (Abu Musa).

Neither "Martyr Halim" nor "Martyr Bajes Abu Atwan" were identified. Palestinian guerrilla groups are usually called after a fallen fighter.

Wafa said the statement was released from the northern Lebanese city of Tripoli, last refuge in Lebanon of Mr. Arafat.

Mr. Arafat is besieged by Syrian-backed Palestinian rebels who accuse him of abandoning the fight against Israel.

The Wafa statement said: "Under instructions of the general command of the Palestine revolution's forces to guerrilla units in the occupied territories, a guerrilla unit of 'Martyr Halim' was able to detonate explosive charges inside an Israeli military bus."

The statement said more than 40 Israeli military personnel were killed in the blast.

## U.S. seeks U.N. help to release captive pilot

UNITED NATIONS (R) — The United States has asked United Nations Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar to help secure the release of an American pilot whose plane was downed by a Syrian missile over Lebanon on Sunday.

Syria said it would not free the navy pilot, Lieutenant Robert Goodman, 27, until U.S. forces left Lebanon, where a Marine contingent is serving with a multinational force.

Ambassador Jean Kirkpatrick, the U.S. representative to the U.N., asked for help in freeing the captured pilot during a meeting Monday night with Mr. Perez de Cuellar.

"I asked the secretary general to lead his good offices to help in any appropriate way with the release of the American crew member who is now being held captive by the Syrians," she told reporters.

Lt. Goodman's crew mate, Lt. Walter Lange, 26, was killed, while the single flier aboard, a second downed navy plane was picked up and returned to his unit.

The two planes were shot down during raids by 28 carrier-based aircraft against Syrian emplacements said to have fired on American reconnaissance flights the previous day.

Ms. Kirkpatrick said she told the secretary general the Lebanese government and that Syria had been informed about them in advance, eliminating any possibility of misunderstanding.

The U.S. would again take appropriate defensive action "if, in the future, we hope, remote event that our forces should be fired upon again," she added.

In addition to the air activity, eight U.S. Marines were killed during the shelling of Beirut airport on Sunday and U.S. warships returned the fire. At least 14 civilians died in a car bombing Monday in west Beirut.

Captive pilot a tough nut, mother says, page 2

## OIC conference opens with calls for Islamic unity, end to conflicts

DHAKA (R) — Islamic foreign ministers opened a five-day meeting Tuesday with calls to help settle the Cyprus problem, end the Iran-Iraq war and resolve the conflict that has torn apart the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Bangladesh's military ruler, Hossain Mohammad Ershad, described the three-year-old Gulf war as "a gaping wound in the body politic of Islam."

"If we do not end this war we will all bleed to death," he said.

In a strongly-worded address to the 41-member ministerial meeting of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC), he underscored a need to close Muslim ranks.

"Such co-operation is the bedrock on which we can build our political strength," he said.

Appealing for more than spe-

eches and resolutions, the 53-year-old general who took power in a bloodless coup in March last year said the ministers must set about strengthening the OIC ahead of a summit meeting in Morocco next month.

Urging both Iran and Iraq to end their conflict, he said he would personally make every effort to help to stop it.

He blamed bickering and internal divisions in Islamic states for what he said was a lack of achievement by the Muslim nations on issues like Palestine, Lebanon and the recovery of Jerusalem since the first Islamic summit 14 years ago.

The theme of a need for Islamic unity was taken up by Bangladesh Foreign Minister A.R. Shams-Ud Doha, who was elected chairman of the conference.

He said: "Divisive forces have

been unleashed in our own Islamic world... the blood of Muslims has been shed by their own brethren despite the solemn injunction of Islam prohibiting fratricidal conflicts."

## PLO high on agenda

The minister said the conference would tackle 44 issues, with the PLO rift high on the agenda.

But conference sources said the ministers were expected only to urge unity among Palestinians rather than get deeply involved in the issues behind the conflict between PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat and the Syrian-backed rebels in his Fateh group.

The conference chairman called for a peaceful settlement in Cyprus, where the Turkish community unilaterally proclaimed a republic last month.

## Tripoli evacuation deal reportedly close

TRIPOLI, Lebanon (R) — Mortar and machinegun fire erupted on the edges of Tripoli Tuesday as its elder statesman said he was about to announce details of an evacuation by guerrillas loyal to Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat.

The mortar rounds sent clouds of smoke billowing into the sky from the Ba'al Mohsen and Tabaneh quarters, where Mr. Arafat's local allies face a militia supported by Syria and pro-Syrian rebels in the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Six people were killed and 15 wounded in the fighting, said state-run Beirut Radio. It did not distinguish between civilians and fighters.

In other parts of the north Lebanese port and in the rebel-held

refugee camp at nearby Baddawi, heavily armed Palestinian guerrillas idled on street corners.

The loyalists, who moved into the city after losing Baddawi to the rebels last month, are expected to leave by sea as soon as Lebanese mediators have settled details of the evacuation.

Beirut press reports said Mr. Arafat has already chartered five Greek ships to take his men to Tunis and North Yemen.

In Damascus, former Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karami, the Tripoli politician heading the mediation team, said he might announce the final arrangements within 48 hours.

The loyalists would then withdraw within the two-week period

stipulated in a Saudi-Syrian peace package, he told reporters.

Mr. Karami said his plan contained all the guarantees needed to ensure the operation went smoothly, but he added that it was up to the Palestinians to decide who would supervise the refugee camps at Baddawi and Nahr Al Bared.

Mr. Arafat wants the rebels to let him reopen offices in the camps and had expected Mr. Karami to come up with some assurance that he could do so. Rebel officers Tuesday reaffirmed that they opposed any pro-Arafat presence in the camps.

West Bank Palestinians continue to support Arafat, page 2

## Turkish military rulers step down

ANKARA (R) — Turkey's ruling generals officially stepped down Tuesday after more than three years in power and President Kenan Evren, leader of the 1980 coup, said they handed over to elected parliament with "easy hearts."

The 399-member legislature, voted in at general elections on Nov. 6, completed appointing parliamentary officers, a process which under the constitution brought to an end the rule of the military National Security Council (NSC).

Gen. Evren is expected formally to call on Turgut Ozal, leader of the majority conservative Motherland Party, to form the new government Wednesday. Mr. Ozal, a former minister in charge of the economy, will lead the first

elected administration since the coup.

The president marked the end of NSC rule with an address to the nation in which he said the council had fulfilled all promises it made after seizing power on Sept. 12, 1980, including the pledge to restore democracy.

"The National Security Council has done whatever was good for the country... it hands over its duties with great peace of mind and easy hearts," Gen. Evren said.

Gen. Evren is installed as president, with enhanced powers under the brand new constitution, for the next six years — a year longer than parliament is set to serve.

His four colleagues on the NSC, who have already handed over their roles as commanders of the

army, navy, air force and gendarmerie, will also serve for six years on an influential presidential council.

"I would like to emphasise that no country wants to be ruled by a military regime," Gen. Evren said. "Soldiers are there for the defence of a country. Their duties are not to govern."

But he painted a grim picture of life in Turkey before the coup, when "students' hands were full of weapons, not books and pencils... banks were robbed in broad daylight... people were frightened to go out night or day... 20 people were killed each day and their murderers walked freely among us."

He said the military was thus forced to step in. "This is what the Turkish people wanted," he said.

## Soviets keep Americans guessing on START future

GENEVA (R) — The United States and the Soviet Union agreed Tuesday to hold another meeting next Thursday on reducing intercontinental missiles, with Moscow apparently keeping Washington guessing about the future of the talks.

The delegations met for a little over one hour at the U.S. mission offices here and lunched together shortly afterwards at the Soviet "Villa Rosa", about one kilometre away.

A U.S. spokesman said the next meeting of the Strategic Arms Reduction Talks (START) would be held on Thursday at the Soviet mission but gave no further details.

Chief Soviet negotiator Viktor Karpov gave no direct answer when reporters asked him if the current round, which began on

Oct. 6, would then recess for the customary year-end break, following the usual pattern of two-month sessions.

"You will hear from us on Thursday," he said. Asked if the 17-month-old START negotiations would resume next year, he replied: "I do not know."

Thursday's meeting will be the fourth START session since Nov. 23, when the Soviet Union broke off separate talks on curbing medium-range missiles in Europe.

This followed the Bonn parliament approval of the deployment of new U.S. missiles in West Germany.

Senior Soviet officials in Moscow accused Washington Monday of trying to sabotage the START talks and indicated that the Kremlin's intentions on their future would become clear on Thursday.

## 'Eurogroup' considers merger of arms talks

BRUSSELS (R) — West European defence ministers think a merger of the suspended Geneva talks on medium-range nuclear missiles and U.S.-Soviet Strategic Arms Reduction Talks (START) could be a way to break the current arms control impasse. West German Defence Minister Manfred Woerner said Tuesday.

But he said that, after last month's Soviet walkout from the Geneva talks, this was not the right time for the West to propose a new negotiating forum on medium-range missiles.

Speaking to reporters after a meeting of 12 European defence ministers that began NATO's regular autumn meetings, Mr. Woerner said: "We discussed several possibilities to allow East and West to continue to negotiate, including a merger."

But he denied reports that the ministers from all European NATO members except France and Iceland had agreed on an initiative to be brought up at the full defence ministers' council Tuesday.

Norwegian Defence Minister Anders Sjaastad, chairman of the "Eurogroup" ministers, told a news conference it was up to the Soviet Union to say how negotiations should be restarted.

## Police dig up part of Heineken ransom

AMSTERDAM (R) — Police said Tuesday they have found most of the \$11 million ransom paid for brewery chief Freddie Heineken after digging up plastic barrels packed with money in a Dutch wood.

They began searching the wood near Utrecht after two hikers found hundreds of \$100 notes.

Police rescued Mr. Heineken, 60, and his driver Ab Doderer, 57, last Wednesday after a three-week kidnapping.

They immediately found \$2 mil-

lion in ransom money in raids which led to the arrest of 25 people. Nineteen were later released.

Police said the money unearthed in the wood Monday was three-fifths of the total ransom payment.

The wood is near a motorway bridge where last week a policeman dropped the ransom of around 34 million guilders (more than \$11 million) in various currencies to some of the kidnappers waiting below.

Two days later police raided an

Amsterdam warehouse where Mr. Heineken and Mr. Doderer lay chained in separate small rooms.

Mr. Heineken, one of the richest men in Europe, and his driver were abducted by five men as they left the brewery's Amsterdam office on Nov. 9.

Police are still searching for three suspects in the Netherlands and abroad. The six men already in police custody will appear before a public prosecutor on Saturday.



## MIDDLE EAST

## U.S., Syria close to all-out war

By Jeffrey Antevel  
Reuter

WASHINGTON — U.S. Marines who went to Lebanon 15 months ago as part of a peacekeeping force are now engaged in a military confrontation with Syria that has moved the two sides closer to all-out war, administration officials said here.

The officials, commenting on the aftermath of Syria's downing of two American warplanes and the death of eight Marines in weekend shelling, agreed there had been a significant change in the U.S. role in conflict-ravaged Lebanon.

Asked if the United States could find itself at war with Syria, which has some 40,000 troops and an array of advanced Soviet anti-aircraft missiles in Lebanon, one official said: "We are certainly closer than we were two days ago."

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, who agreed last week to closer security cooperation with the United States in Lebanon and elsewhere, said he did not believe Syria would risk "an all-out war with the United States and Israel."

But some U.S. officials disagreed, saying Damascus had little to lose politically or militarily in such a conflict.

"I think they are probably willing to do it," one official said. If Syria were forced to retreat in the face of superior U.S. and Israeli forces in Lebanon, he said, it would cite its defeat as "one more example of its heroic dedication to the Arab cause."

Moscow might intervene militarily to rescue its Syrian ally from such a defeat, he added, but in any case Damascus would expect the Soviet Union to replace equipment losses, as it had done after past Syrian defeats at Israel's hands.

But administration officials and Middle East analysts said a compromise solution was still possible without war between the United States and Syria.

The officials repeated President Reagan's assurances that the United States would not repeat the bombing raid on Syrian positions that resulted in the downing of two American planes on Sunday unless Syria continued to fire on U.S. reconnaissance aircraft over Lebanon.

They added that there was still hope for reconciliation talks aimed at ending Lebanese intercommunal warfare if Damascus eased its long-held demand for a "greater Syria" including most of present-day Lebanon.

But the officials said they dismissed Syria's current position that it would withdraw its forces from Lebanon only after Israeli troops had pulled out and Pres-

ident Amin Gemayel was replaced in effect by Damascus's Lebanese allies.

"Once Gemayel and the Israelis are out," one official said, "The Syrians won't have to have troops in Lebanon — they'll control the country."

Former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, a key architect of U.S. Middle East policy in the 1970s, said in a television interview Monday: "I don't think we can drive Syria out of Lebanon without a major confrontation."

Dr. Kissinger added that a compromise was possible under which Syria would remain the dominant influence in northeastern Lebanon, with Mr. Gemayel's Falangist allies in the central area around Beirut and Israel in the south.

The U.S. administration has repeatedly ruled out any solution that would amount to a de facto partition of Lebanon.

Administration officials conceded that, apart from a risk of direct Soviet involvement, a military effort to drive Syria out of Lebanon could be a long and costly operation even with major Israeli assistance.

The officials said it was unclear, despite Mr. Shamir's intensive talks with Mr. Reagan and other U.S. leaders in Washington last week, how much Israeli assistance could be expected.

The United States has fewer than 2,000 troops on the ground in Lebanon, too few to undertake a major military drive to clear and hold areas now occupied by Syria and its allies.

Syria, moreover, has an array of sophisticated Soviet surface-to-air missiles in Lebanon, some of which have been fired at U.S. and Israeli planes.

One U.S. official said destroying those missiles would be more difficult than a similar Israeli operation in Lebanon's Bekaa Valley last year since some of the newer weapons such as SA-7s were small, mobile and hard to locate in a bombing strike.

The U.S. troops, part of a four-nation peacekeeping force in Lebanon, are backed up by some 160 warplanes from the aircraft carriers Kennedy and Independence off the Lebanese coast, as well as naval artillery which has been used several times against Lebanese leftist positions.

## Pentagon calls Lebanon bombing raid a success

WASHINGTON (R) — The raid by U.S. bombers on Syrian army positions in Lebanon Sunday achieved its goal of preventing fresh Syrian attacks on American reconnaissance planes, the Defense Department said.

In a statement reversing earlier cautious assessments of the results of the raid, in which two U.S. planes were shot down by Syrian gunners, the Pentagon said analysis made clear that "the mission was very successful and achieved our objective."

It said significant damage was inflicted on the targets.

Officials had said that preliminary reports on the raid by 28 carrier-based fighter-bombers

were not promising.

The pilot of one of the downed U.S. planes was rescued and one of two crew members of the second plane was captured by the Syrians, also apparently in good condition.

But the second pilot, Lieutenant Mark Lange, was reported by the Syrians to have died.

Washington Monday called on Damascus to return the captured airman, Lieutenant Robert Goodman, but a senior Syrian military source said he would be kept until "the end of the Lebanese war and the departure of American forces from Lebanon."

President Reagan and other

administration officials have said the raids, the first U.S. air attack on positions of the Syrians or their Lebanese allies, were defensive and responded to Syrian firing at unarmed American reconnaissance planes.

The Pentagon said its analysis so far showed that:

— Four major targets were hit at a site near Dayr-Al-Harb.

— Seven of 11 targets were hit at Hammama, and a secondary explosion indicated that an ammunition storage area had been destroyed.

— A radar antenna and its protective SA-9 missile near Faluga were destroyed.

## Cairo attacks U.S.-Israeli agreement

CAIRO (R) — Egyptian newspapers, apparently reflecting official thinking, Tuesday attacked the recent U.S.-Israeli strategic cooperation agreement, saying it would endanger U.S. credibility in the Arab World.

Officials in Egypt, one of Washington's closest allies in the region, say the agreement will anger Arab moderates and impede U.S.-sponsored peace efforts.

Urging Washington to re-think its strategy, the daily newspaper Al-Gomhuria said the agreement, as seen by Arab countries including Egypt, would threaten U.S. interests in the area.

The English-language Egyptian Gazette commented: "The (1982) Reagan initiative was a suitable basis for an overall Middle East settlement... but after the new strategic cooperation agreement, it would seem unlikely that Washington will oppose Israeli military occupation of Palestinian territory."

## U.N. accuses Israel of war crimes

UNITED NATIONS (R) — A U.N. General Assembly committee has accused Israel of committing war crimes against civilians in occupied territories.

The special political committee voted by 93 to two — the opponents were Israel and the United States — in favour of a resolution saying Israel had committed grave breaches of the 1949 Geneva convention on protection of civilians in wartime that it described as "war crimes and a grave affront to humanity."

Twenty nations abstained.

The resolution was one of a series dealing with Israeli practices in occupied territories.

A paragraph in the resolution strongly condemning 14 specific Israeli practices, ranging from "annexation of parts of the occupied territories" to "ill-treatment and torture of persons

under detention", was approved in a separate vote by 85 to 20, with 10 abstentions.

A resolution reaffirming that the 1949 Geneva convention was applicable to Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967 was endorsed by 112 votes to one (Israel), with one abstention (the United States).

In an assembly debate on Palestine, Iranian delegate Said Rajaei-Khorassani called Israel and South Africa "illegitimate children" of British colonialism that would eventually turn the whole world into a desert of bones.

Observing that an assembly committee adopted last week a resolution to combat prostitution, he said another measure was badly needed to oblige those who produced children out of wedlock to "take their illegitimate offspring

back home."

Muhammad El-Farra, undersecretary-general of the League of Arab States, said the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) was Palestinians' "legitimate and sole representative, the reflection of their independent will."

Any settlement of the Middle East problem in which the Palestinians' national rights were overlooked or denied and negotiations in which the PLO was not involved on an equal footing with the other parties would not lead to a just, durable peace, Mr. Farra said.

The League official, a former chief delegate of Jordan to the U.N., said the Security Council should adopt mandatory measures to deter Israel and order the United States stop aiding it.

## Captured pilot 'a tough nut,' mother says

VIRGINIA BEACH, Virginia (R) — The mother of Lt. Robert Goodman, 27, the U.S. airman being held by Syrian forces after his plane was shot down in Lebanon on Sunday, said he was a tough nut.

Marilyn Goodman told Reuters in a telephone interview from New York that her son's wife was notified that his plane was shot down, but the family did not know for some time whether he was missing or dead.

She said she learned he was alive when she was a still photograph on television of her wounded son, his eyes open, leaning against another soldier, presumably a captor.

Mrs. Goodman appeared undaunted by reports that her son could be held prisoner for some time.

"His father was an air force flyer. He grew up in that aura," she said. "Robert's quite a fighter. He's a tough nut."

LT Goodman has two daughters aged five and two.

His crew mate, LT Walter Lange, 26, was killed.

## Nearly all West Bank Arabs still back Arafat

TEHRAN (R) — The first trial of members of the banned Iranian Communist Party began Tuesday with three people accused of vying and aiming to overthrow the Islamic republic of Iran appearing in a revolutionary court.

The national news agency IRNA said the three, whom it did not name, were being tried in the revolutionary court of the armed forces. The court hears all cases involving serious charges.

It said the accused, belonging to the communist Tudeh Party's "secret organisation", were charged with "taking measures against the security of the Islamic republic, espionage against the country, and membership and having activities in secret organisations with an objective to overthrow the Islamic republic."

Tudeh leaders were arrested in February and the party was outlawed in May after its secretary-general, Nouredin Kianouri, confessed on television to spying for the Soviet Union.

Eighteen Soviet diplomats were expelled at the same time on charges of interfering in Iran's internal affairs.

The agency did not mention the maximum penalties faced by those on trial. But others convicted of trying to overthrow the Islamic republic have been executed.

A court official, who confirmed that the trial had started, told Reuters it was being covered by some Iranian reporters but that foreign correspondents would not be allowed to attend.

The armed forces' revolutionary prosecutor indicated in July that the first people to go on trial would be military men accused of Tudeh membership, including former naval commander Bahram Afzali.

But the revolutionary prosecutor-general's office, which has overall responsibility for the Tudeh cases, has refused to say whether this is still true or to give any other information about the trials.

The moves against the Tudeh Party have removed from Iranian politics one of the few organisations still operating openly which might have posed a threat to the present revolutionary leadership.

The Tudeh Party declared its support for the Islamic revolution which overthrew the Shah in 1979.

It managed to survive when other leftist and secular groups broke with the clerical followers of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini and were driven from the political scene.

The authorities finally acted last February and arrested most of the Tudeh leadership. Once the party was banned, more arrests followed and by the end of May the revolutionary prosecutor general said 1,500 Tudeh members were in prison.

## British opposition to peacekeeping rises

LONDON (R) — Opposition to Britain's token peacekeeping role in Lebanon is rising sharply in the ruling Conservative Party, political sources said Tuesday.

The government Monday rejected calls to withdraw its 100-man peace-keeping unit, telling Parliament it would remain there as long as it was useful.

But the debate showed that many of Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's Conservatives were unhappy about the British role. The opposition Labour Party voiced fears of full-scale conflict between U.S. and Syrian forces.

Labour's spokesman on foreign affairs, Denis Healey, predicted in a television interview Monday night that the British troops would be ordered home this week.

World opinion, including the London government, thought U.S. action in Lebanon at the weekend was disproportionate to the needs of the situation, said Mr. Healey, a former defence secretary.

"I think we'll find the British government is taking the troops out by the end of the week," he said.

Foreign Office Minister Malcolm Rifkind told parliament a unilateral British pull-out would be harmful. Mrs. Thatcher was

## 3 Iranian communist leaders put on trial

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The Tudeh Party declared its support for the Islamic revolution which overthrew the Shah in 1979.

It managed to survive when other leftist and secular groups broke with the clerical followers of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini and were driven from the political scene.

The authorities finally acted last February and arrested most of the Tudeh leadership. Once the party was banned, more arrests followed and by the end of May the revolutionary prosecutor general said 1,500 Tudeh members were in prison.

## TV &amp; RADIO

## JORDAN TELEVISION

**- MAIN CHANNEL**

17:30 ..... Koran  
17:40 ..... Cartoons  
18:30 ..... Cartoons  
19:30 ..... That's Incredible  
19:30 ..... Programme Review  
19:30 ..... Programme on Agriculture  
20:00 ..... News in Arabic  
20:30 ..... Arabic Series  
21:30 ..... Local Series  
22:30 ..... Arabic Series  
23:15 ..... News in Arabic

**FOREIGN CHANNEL**

18:00 ..... French Programme  
19:00 ..... News in French  
19:30 ..... News in Hebrew  
20:00 ..... News in Arabic  
20:30 ..... The Company  
21:30 ..... Documentary: Danger Fronts  
22:00 ..... News in English  
22:15 ..... Vegas

**RADIO JORDAN**  
553 KHz. AM & 99 MHz. FM  
& partly on 93.60 KHz. SW

07:00 ..... Morning Show  
07:30 ..... News Bulletin  
08:00 ..... News Summary  
08:30 ..... Morning Show  
09:00 ..... News Summary  
09:30 ..... Pop Session  
10:00 ..... News Summary  
10:30 ..... News Bulletin  
11:00 ..... Instruments  
11:30 ..... Animal, Vegetable, Mineral  
12:00 ..... Concert Hour  
12:30 ..... News Summary  
13:00 ..... Instruments, Old Favorites  
13:30 ..... Jordan Weekly  
14:00 ..... News Summary  
14:30 ..... Over a Cup of Tea, Music  
15:00 ..... Classical Notes  
15:30 ..... Newsdesk  
16:00 ..... Date with a Star  
16:30 ..... Evening Show  
17:00 ..... News Summary  
17:30 ..... Evening Show  
18:00 ..... News Summary  
18:30 ..... News Summary  
19:00 ..... News Headlines

**BBC WORLD SERVICE**  
639, 720, 1413 KHz  
06:00 Newsdesk 06:30 Wavaguide 06:40

## WHAT'S GOING ON

## TODAY'S EVENTS

## EXHIBITIONS

\* Orientalists' exhibitions, at the Alia Art Gallery.

## VIDEO

\* For children, at the French Cultural Centre, at 4:30 p.m. TV film (sub-titled in English) and 8:00 p.m.

\* Winterspel, a war film in colour (sub-titled in English) at the Goethe Institute at 8:00 p.m.

## CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre. Tel. 6610267

American Centre ..... 43371

American Centre library ..... 41521

British Council ..... 36147-8

French Cultural Centre ..... 37009

Goethe Institute ..... 41993

Soviet Cultural Centre ..... 44203

Spanish Cultural Centre ..... 24049

Turkish Cultural Centre ..... 39777

Haya Arts Centre ..... 665195

Hussein Youth City ..... 667181

Y.W.C.A. ..... 67193

Y.W.M.C.A. ..... 664251

Amman Municipal Library ..... 35111

University of Jordan Library ..... 643555

## MUSEUMS

Rubbins Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51760.

Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabel gerd gerd (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.

Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculptures by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th century orientalists artists. Muntazah, Jabal Lubweid, Opening hours: 10:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 30128.

## Martyrs' Memorial (Military Museum):

Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916.

Sports City, Amman. Opening hours 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 664240.

People's Life of Jordan Museum: 100 to 150 year old items such as costumes, weapons, musical instruments, etc. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 37169.

## SERVICE CLUBS

Lions Amman Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Tyche Hotel, 130 p.m.

Lions Philadelphia Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Marriott Hotel, 1:30 p.m.

Phi Kappa Beta Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m.

Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the International Hotel, 2:00 p.m.

Royal Automobile Club, Jabal Amman, Eighth Circle. Tel. 815261.

## CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman, tel. 24590.

Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabal Lubweid, 37440.

De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Hussein, 661757.

Church of the Ascension (Greek Orthodox) Abdali, 23541.

Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabal Amman, 41559.

Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh, 71331.

Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, 71331.

St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh, 71751.

Armenian International Church (Inter-denominational): meets at Southern Baptist School in Slemani, 663249.

## PRAYER TIMES

06:55 ..... Fair

06:23 ..... (Sunrise) Shuruf

12:27 ..... Dhuhur

14:13 ..... 'Asr

16:30 ..... Maghrib

17:50 ..... Isha

## FOR THE TRAVELLER

## AMMAN AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Alia Information department at the Queen Alia International Airport tel. (08) 53250. Where it should always be verified.

## ARRIVALS

07:00 ..... Cairo (EA)  
07:15 ..... Karachi (PIA)  
08:05 ..... Agaba (RJ)  
09:15 ..... Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)  
09:45 ..... Dhahran, Kuwait (RJ)  
10:00 ..... Cairo (EA)  
11:05 ..... Muscat, Bahrain (KLM)  
14:05 ..... Cairo (EA)  
14:40 ..... Kuwait (KAC)  
14:50 ..... Bucharest (Tarom)  
15:00 ..... Jeddah (Saudi)  
15:10 ..... Jeddah (Saudi)  
15:30 ..... Baghdad (IA)  
15:30 ..... Cairo (RJ)  
16:30 ..... Bangkok (RJ)  
17:40 ..... Rio de Janeiro, Lisbon (JA)  
17:45 ..... New York, Vienna (RJ)  
17:50 ..... Copenhagen, Athens (RJ)  
18:30 ..... Cairo (RJ)  
18:40 ..... Madrid, Rome (RJ)  
19:05 ..... Cairo (EA)  
20:05 ..... Cairo (EA)  
20:15 ..... Frankfurt, Larnaca (LH)  
20:55 ..... Zurich, Athens, Damascus (SR)  
00:30 ..... Cairo (EA)  
00:45 ..... Baghdad (RJ)  
01:05 ..... Cairo (EA)

## DEPARTURES

05:45 ..... Cairo (RJ)  
06:25 ..... Larnaca, Frankfurt (LH)  
07:00 ..... Agaba (RJ)  
08:00 ..... Cairo (EA)  
08:30 ..... Athens (OAG)  
08:50 ..... Abu Dhabi, Karachi (PIA)  
10:05 ..... Damascus, Rome (Alitalia)  
11:00 ..... Vienna, New York (RJ)  
11:30 ..... Cairo (RJ)  
11:55 ..... Amsterdam (KLM)  
12:00 ..... London (RJ)  
14:20 ..... Cairo (RJ)  
14:30 ..... Cairo (EA)  
15:40 ..... Kuwait (KAC)  
15:50 ..... Larnaca, Bucharest (Tarom)  
16:30 ..... Baghdad (IA)  
16:50 ..... Jeddah (Saudi)  
18:45 ..... Baghdad (IA)  
19:30 ..... Kuwait, Dhahran (RJ)

## MONEY EXCHANGE

Local exchange rates in J.S.

Belgian franc ..... 671/674

Dutch guilder ..... 121/1/121.8

Egyptian pound ..... 332/336.3

French franc ..... 44/6/44.9

Irish dollar ..... 353/3/360

Italian lire (per 100) ..... 22/4/22.6

Japanese yen (per 100) ..... 158.5/159.5

Kuwaiti dinar ..... 1270.6/1275.6

Lebanese lira ..... 70/71

Omani rial ..... 1075.1/1081.6

Qatari riyal ..... 101/1/102

Saudi riyal ..... 106.9/107.5

Swedish crown ..... 46/3/46.6



## HOME NEWS

## CAEU body to plan future policy

By Philip Robins  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A ministerial meeting of the Council for Arab Economic Unity (CAEU) has decided to set up a working party to seek new ways of attaining the CAEU's goal of promoting Arab economic integration.

The working party will be given a wide brief which will allow it to scrutinise the workings of the Arab Common Market, the original Arab economic unity agreement which led to the establishment of the CAEU in 1964, and the existing system of transfer investment under which the wealthy member countries help finance projects in their less well endowed counterparts.

CAEU Secretary-General Mahdi Al Obeidi, who was elected to the post last May, told the Jordan Times that the body was created because of the slow progress being made in reaching Arab economic unity, which is at present being hindered by the world economic crisis.

He said that the working party will comprise of representatives from the CAEU's 12 full member states (Egypt still being under suspension) along with a team of res-

pected Arab economists backed by the general secretariat.

It is scheduled to convene next April and will meet continuously before submitting its recommendations to be discussed by the 41st twice yearly ministerial meeting which is slated for next June. The report, Mr. Obeidi emphasised, will be used as the basis for the CAEU's next five year plan which is expected to commence in 1985.

Commenting on the two-day meeting which concluded here late Monday, the secretary-general said that it was "one of the most successful yet" and was characterised by "the will on behalf of all the members to attain the objectives of the council."

Mr. Obeidi also reiterated the CAEU's commitment to establishing more joint Arab companies as a way of promoting integration. In addition to the four which have been set up since 1973 in the province of mining, annual wealth, drug manufacturing and industrial investment, two new companies in the transport and printing industry are expected to be founded, he said. The CAEU is also planning additional ventures, he added, particularly in the agricultural sector.

The CAEU budget for 1984, which was passed by the meeting, will continue to contain an element for technical assistance to poorer member states, he said.

This would be used to develop their government statistical departments in order to ensure that these countries can collect the necessary data upon which to base their own development plans.

The CAEU ministerial meeting also decided to compile a register of the most important products made by its constituent countries. Such a move towards perfect knowledge, Mr. Obeidi hoped, would "encourage trade and exchange among members."

Finally, Mr. Obeidi said the meeting had endorsed the proposal of the Arab ministers of health to establish professional bodies comprising private and public sector companies engaged in drug production.

He said that such a body, which will be the 14th professional union to be set up under CAEU auspices, will aim to increase coordination in production and marketing thus eliminating needless waste and achieving certain economies of scale. This body, he added, will also facilitate the exchange of expertise.

## Noor to open Schneller bazaar

AMMAN (J.T.) — Her Majesty Queen Noor will open the Schneller annual bazaar on Friday Dec. 9, at the Schneller School, a Schneller School press release said Tuesday.

The Schneller School is one of the oldest such establishments, having originally been founded in Jerusalem.

Now situated in Amman, it has graduated hundreds of students qualified in different vocations and handicrafts.

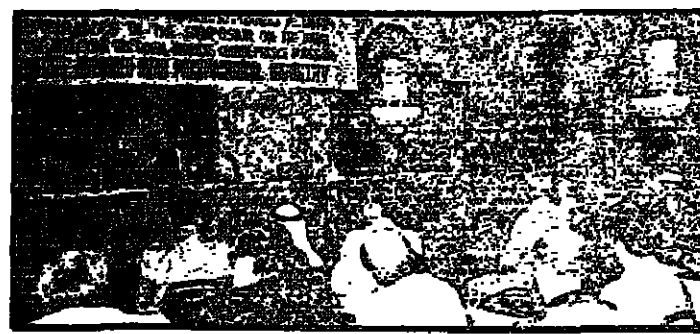
The bazaar will continue until Sunday Dec. 11, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

## 2,662 doctors working in Jordan in '83

AMMAN (Petra) — The number of doctors operating in Jordan reached 2,662 in 1983. Twenty eight per cent of them are employed by the Ministry of Health, while 46.4 per cent are in the private sector.

Ministry of Education statistics show that the number of Jordanians studying medicine abroad has reached 8,165, which indicates that the annual increase in medical students is estimated at 500. This also indicates that the total number of Jordanian doctors will reach 4,196 by 1985.

Meanwhile, the Ministry of Health has pointed out in a statistical bulletin that doctors are increasingly inclined to specialise, and shows that 50 per cent of Jordanian doctors have undergone specialised medical study.



Minister of Health Zuhair Malhas addresses the open session of the seminar on "Drug Industry in the Arab World" (Petra photo)

## Drug industry meeting focuses on quality control

By Ara Voskian  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The symposium on "Drug Industry in the Arab World" started its second day Tuesday with three lectures on quality control, under the chairmanship of the pharmacist and National Consultative Council (NCC) member Amin Shukair.

The symposium was organised by the Arab Company for Drug Industry and Medical Appliances (ACDIMA) under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan at the Amman Marriott Hotel. It was officially opened Monday by Minister of Health Zuhair Malhas.

The lecturers were Dr. Salim Babhair from Saudi Arabia who discussed the problems of quality control, followed by Dr. Omar Abdul Hafeeth Ja'wan, who talked about the use of computers in such operations.

Bengt Oom from Sweden also spoke on quality assurance in the past, present and future.

Speaking to the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, at the end of the panel discussion Mr. Shukair praised the three papers which were presented and said that they had enriched the knowledge of all the participants.

Regarding the importance of quality control in the drug industry, he said it is "the best way of securing drug safety and its effects on people and environment."

After a brief recess, the fourth

panel discussion started under the chairmanship of ACDIMA director and Iraqi representative, Dr. Tahseen Jihad. During this session three lectures were delivered on research by Prof. Anwar Hussein from the United States, Dr. Hassan Yousef Hassan from Jordan and Dr. Al Habib Shneier from Tunisia.

At the end of the discussion, Dr. Jihad said that the discussions on the topic of research had added a new dimension to the importance of this symposium as it concentrated on the importance of scientific and technological development in the Arab drug industry in order to improve it and keep it up with the international standards.

In the afternoon, the fifth panel discussion, which was chaired by the assistant director-general of ACDIMA, Abdul Mutaleb Abdul Umani Naser, discussed subjects related to natural resources in the drug industry.

During this session, there were three lectures, delivered by Dr. Mohammad Boukaf from Tunisia who discussed the present and the future status of drug producing plants in the Arab World. He was followed by Dr. Boris Holm from Sweden who talked about pharmaceutical intermediates from benzene, and Dr. Adel Said who lectured on organic intermediates.

On Monday evening, the second panel discussion was held on the development and marketing of Arab pharmaceuticals.

## U. of J. conference on philosophy opens

AMMAN (Petra) — The first Arab conference on philosophy opened at the University of Jordan Monday. The University President Abdul Salam Al Majali opened the conference with a speech in which he underlined the importance of the subjects to be discussed by the participants in the three days of meetings.

The University of Jordan is keen to hold such conferences and take part in scientific and cultural meetings which help to lead the Arab Nation towards further progress, Dr. Majali said.

Also addressing the conference was Dr. Mahmoud Al Samra, the university's vice president, who called on the philosophy departments at Arab universities to modernise their programmes and activities in order to help solve Arab issues.

Dr. Ahmad Madi, head of the philosophy department at the university, made a speech emphasising the necessary improvements which ought to be introduced to improve the teaching of philosophy in the Arab World. Taking part in the conference are thinkers and philosophers from Egypt, Morocco, Kuwait, Lebanon, North Yemen, University of Paris in addition to the University of Jordan and Yarmouk University.

## Seminar opens on energy in agricultural production

AMMAN (Petra) — The execution of a joint Jordanian-French project on the use of renewable energy, especially solar energy, for heating and cooling plastic green houses used in agriculture started Monday.

The project is aimed at improving and increasing agricultural production in addition to exploring the possibility of growing produce in the winter and summer seasons.

Fakhreddin Al Daghestani.

Taking part in the project are the Faculty of Agriculture of the University of Jordan and the Royal Scientific Society (RSS).

The opening ceremony was attended by the French ambassador to Amman, Jacques-Alain de Sedouy, dean of the Faculty of Agriculture, Dr. Marwan Kamal, and RSS deputy president, Dr. Fakhreddin Al Daghestani.

## Joint shipping company formulates programme

AMMAN (Petra) — The joint Jordanian-Syrian Shipping Company's board held a meeting here Tuesday at the Ministry of Transport to discuss its budget for 1984 and to review its programme for developing the company's activities in the coming year.

A board spokesman said that the future projects are designed to boost Jordanian and Syrian foreign trade.

The meeting was chaired by

Transport Minister Ali Suheimat. According to the spokesman the next meeting is to be held in Damascus in April 1984.

The joint company was established in 1976 with a capital of 100 million Syrian pounds.

At present the company owns two ships: Barada and Yarmouk. Each ship has the capacity to transport 6,500 tonnes of goods, the spokesman said.

## Switzerland gives gift to handicapped

AMMAN (J.T.) — Switzerland Monday made a gift of ten wheelchairs and 50 crutches to the Al Hussein Society for the Rehabilitation of the Physically Handicapped.

The gift was presented to the society's President Princess Majida Ra'ed by Swiss Ambassador to Jordan Andre Louis Vallon.

Princess Majida thanked the ambassador for the gift after which he toured the various parts of the society's building.

## Mazali, foundation head meet

TUNIS (Petra) — Tunisian Prime Minister Mohammad Mazali received in his office Monday Royal Academy for Islamic Civilisation Research, The Al Bayt Foundation, President Nasser Eddin Al Assad.

Following the meeting, Dr. Assad said that he had delivered a message from His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan to Mr. Mazali on cooperating with the Independent Commission on International Humanitarian Issues, and proposals on a new humanitarian order submitted by Crown Prince Hassan to the United Nations General Assembly.

Dr. Assad pointed out that a meeting held in Geneva about four months ago had formed a

specialised international commission co-chaired by Crown Prince Hassan and Prince Sadr Eddin Khan and comprising a number of internationally prominent figures follow up the humanitarian issue.

Dr. Assad also discussed with Mr. Mazali prospects for cooperation between the established National Foundation for Translation, Research and Studies (NFTRS) in Tunis and the Royal Academy. He expressed optimism that close cooperation between the two foundations will soon enter a new phase.

Dr. Assad Tuesday attended the opening ceremony by Mr. Mazali of the NFTRS meeting which hosts a number of Arab researchers.

## Orientalists record an age never to be seen again

By Meg Abu Hamdan  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Not so long ago nobody had heard of the "Orientalists". The achievements of this group of mainly European artists, who lived and worked in the Middle East from the mid 1850's to around the turn of the century satisfying the demand for images of the mysterious Orient back in their native countries, went unheeded and their canvases changed hands for very little money. Gradually, however, people started to re-evaluate their work and now, within the space of a few short years, their paintings are as sought after as they were at the end of the last century when they were still very fashionable and the finer, rarer ones command like then high prices.

The first time the majority of art goers in Jordan really became aware of the "Orientalists" was in April 1981 when the Mathaf Gallery in London exhibited some of its collection at the Alia Art Gallery. This week, almost two years later, the Alia Gallery is again the venue for an enormous collection (some 170 oils and watercolours) of Orientalist originals. This time the works of art belong to Ghassan Ashkar, a collector who tours around European auction rooms and other places where these paintings occasionally turn up, buying primarily for himself. Around 90 per cent of the collection date from the pure "Orientalist" period (1855-1910), the rest being modern versions. The majority of the paintings are watercolours, a med-

ium which manages to convey better than any other the atmosphere of the East. Its transparencies seem able to capture the heat, the dust, the hazy horizons more exactly, while the medium's gentle, subtler tones are more true to the bleached sunwashed colours of the Levant. No doubt this is why the "Orientalists" themselves preferred watercolours but they also used them because they were more portable and they could be employed to make quick accurate sketches from life. Often these sketches would be done again more painstakingly in oils, back in the artist's studio. Sometimes however they would be the artist's final product — as in the case of that most prolific of painters (around 30 of the paintings in this col-

## ART REVIEW

lection are by this British artist alone), Augustus Osborne Lamplough (1877-1930) who first came to the Arab World in 1900. If you look closely enough at some of his paintings you can see that the colours have dried very quickly — the result of painting under a fierce desert sun. Much of Lamplough's work however must have been executed later from the imagination as they follow a similar format — endless stretches of shimmering desert separated from a sky of similar immensity by a distant range of mountains. These barely seen rugged peaks hover mysteriously, their presence often only discerned, like the rocks in the foreground, by the shadows



An example of an Orientalist watercolour by the Englishman A.O. Lamplough whose paintings are featured in the current exhibition at the Alia Art Gallery.

they cast. To give the whole scene a sense of scale and perspective, Lamplough places with great care a few tiny figures, complete with hats and sticks, an odd camel or even perhaps ruined arches fringed with palms. Similar though they often are these paintings never, even today, fail to please and how their romantic sense of space and heat must have appealed to the rain-weary Victorians.

## Classical style

Another British artist who caught the appeal of Middle Eastern landscapes successfully was Henry Andrew Harper (1835-1900). Harper preceded Lamplough by some years, a fact reflected by his more classical style through which he records in meticulous details the beauty of the Mount of Olives

and of the Mosque of Omar perched above the mist filled valleys. A favourite subject of the Orientalists were the souks, and again many of the artists used a similar compositional format which is typified by the souk scene of Carl Haag (1820-1915). Your eye is led into the picture by the narrow street in whose deep shade veiled women, carrying baskets on their heads and children in their arms, pass and pause at the shops whose colourful goods spill down into the street itself. Below the intricately decorated oriel windows camels and donkeys move, while a minaret rising like a white spear into an azure sky crowns the whole scene. Each artist includes some of these many aspects in his souk scene each in his own individual way. What makes Haag's pictures memorable are the tiny downward strokes of his brush which imbues

the atmosphere with a soft light, while with J. Whipple it is the immaculate detailing of the beautiful decorations on the old Islamic arches. Tristram James' version is slightly different for he has managed to capture the airy vaults and shady gloom of a closed souk. Best of all however is Walter Tyndale's "Fruit Shop". Executed in delicate hues, this painting shows that this kind of shop has changed very little in the past one hundred

years for in his version huge baskets of apples, oranges, lemons, watermelons cascade down onto the pavement much as they do today.

This picture crosses the boundary between the souk scenes and images of Oriental daily life at the end of the last century. Many extremely fine paintings at this exhibition show other aspects of the daily minutiae of the Arabs in greater detail like for example Percy Croft's marvellous "Sherbet Seller", Alberto Rosatti's "Dewan", Rudolf Esmt's fierce looking "Arms Dealer" and many more. In fact there are simply too many good paintings and a few bad to mention, and to list them all would neither do them justice nor serve much purpose. The best thing is to go and see these paintings which record an age we will never witness again and a culture whose richness is fast disappearing in a style that there has been little point in imitating since the advent of the camera.

All the paintings are for sale, prices ranging from JD 30 to JD 10,000. Exhibition continues until December 13.

## LOST PASSPORT

I, Ann Lisbeth Briseid lost my Norwegian passport Ser. No. C0501110-1 issued in Oslo, Norway July 21, 1976.

If found please call (08)-53336 or 671071, Amman. JD 25 reward.

On the tragic occasion of the death of our young son Nasser Anwar Malhas in Nicosia - Cyprus following an unfortunate traffic accident, we the Malhas family in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan would like to extend and acknowledge our deepest gratitude and appreciation to the Minister of Commerce and Industry Mr. George Andreou, the director-general of Health Mr. Vakis, the Ambassador of Cyprus to Jordan Mr. Licorgos and to the honorary consul of the Republic of Cyprus in Jordan Mr. Daoud Suleiman for their unflinching help in attending to our needs in distress.

Special thanks and gratitude are extended to the doctors and staff of the Nicosia General Hospital for their expert and humane care in trying to save the life of young Nasser. We wish to thank in particular Dr. Nicos Spanos, Dr. Andreas Constantinides, Dr. Dietis and Dr. Stavrinou...

Last but by no means least, our deepest gratitude and sincere appreciation is extended to our real friend and brother Mr. Cristos Orphanos and his beloved family for their unforgettable support and help throughout our ordeal...

May the almighty bless them all  
The Malhas Family

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## Private vs. public roles

THE NATIONAL Consultative Council's recommendation Monday that the Ministry of Agriculture should have more power in deciding on matters in the agriculture sector strikes us slightly old-fashioned, and perhaps even out-of-step with the productive instincts and patterns of the Jordanian economy. It is true that one of the problems of agriculture in Jordan has always been the fragmentation of decision-making and policy implementation among many different private and public sector bodies. To bring it all under the umbrella of the Ministry of Agriculture may or may not be the right answer. One point against this solution is that the frequent changes in senior personnel at the top of the ministry have tended to hamper the kind of continuity in policy that is required in any government agency.

Certainly, the Ministry of Agriculture should be the focal point of coordinating the many different programmes in the agriculture sector in Jordan, but the more substantive business of decision-making should remain in the hands of the private farmers and companies working in the field, literally and figuratively. One only has to look at other sectors in Jordan to understand that private initiative is usually the best means of filling in the gaps between the public sector's responsibilities. For example, the proliferation of private schools and community colleges, and of private doctors' clinics, and pharmacies, are examples that should eventually find a parallel in the agriculture sector.

Wherever there is a market demand, and profit to be made by private sector entrepreneurs, precedent suggests that the best formula to apply in Jordan is for the private sector to undertake the productive activity and for the public sector to provide the legal framework and the quality control functions that are, ultimately, the responsibility of the state. This should work in agriculture as it has worked in other fields, in Jordan and elsewhere.

### ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

#### Al Ra'i: U.S. backs Israel all the way

THE NATIONAL Consultative Council Monday unanimously condemned the U.S.-Israeli strategic alliance and the U.S. raid on Syrian targets in Lebanon. The council also pointed out the fact that the U.S. has stopped being a peace mediator because it has now totally allied itself to Israel vis-a-vis the Arab states. The condemnation does not only represent a mere reaction to the outcome of the Shamir-Reagan talks in Washington, but a national Jordanian stand with regard to issues of concern to the Arab Nation. The strategic alliance with the Zionist enemy followed a series of terrorist actions and invasions by Israel against the Arab states.

The alliance is but a show of support on the part of the United States for all that Israel does, whether it be its annexation of the Golan Heights, Jerusalem and other parts of the Arab lands or the establishment of settlements on the occupied Arab territory after driving out its indigenous population. In the news Monday, Washington was reported to have reassured the Arabs that it is still committed to its efforts aimed at establishing peace in the Middle East. We really wonder if the U.S. still has any supporters among the Arabs states and if it can boast of any credibility after the recent strategic alliance with Israel the Arabs' common enemy.

#### Al Dustour: A national stand

THE CONDEMNATION of the U.S.-Israeli alliance and American air raids on Syrian targets inside Lebanon by the National Consultative Council is justified, because this alliance has ushered in a new serious development in the region and could lead to a further escalation of tension resulting in all out war. The alliance has heralded a new phase in international polarisation of the Middle East region and is bound to deepen conflicts and so eventually close the door to peace.

No doubt further American involvement in the region's issues will not serve American interests, nor will it help the cause of peace. The alliance furthermore represents open U.S. hostility towards the Arabs in whom the U.S. has numerous interests, and we wonder why the U.S. insists on assuming such a role. The council's condemnation of the alliance and the U.S. raids on Syrian targets in Lebanon is a national Jordanian stand and truly expresses the feelings of the people against the U.S. which has now placed itself in the same trench as Israel in confrontation of the Arab state.

#### Sawt Al Shaab: Gap between speech, deed

THE U.S.-Israeli alliance and American air strikes against Syrian targets in Lebanon have drawn outcries in the Arab World and voices that condemn the two actions. One such reaction was represented in the condemnation announced Monday by the National Consultative Council that reflected the true feelings of the Arab people in Jordan. The condemnation was justified in view of the U.S. attitude towards the Arabs and its total support and unlimited assistance to Israel, the enemy of all the Arabs. The U.S. has, over the past 30 years, enabled Israel to wreak havoc in the Arab World, invade four Arab states and maintain its occupation of all of Palestine, driving its inhabitants out to build Jewish settlements. We hear the U.S. one day speak about the rights of the Palestinians and the need to establish peace and for the withdrawal of all foreign forces including those of Israel from Lebanon, and on the other we see Washington acting differently.

Washington's strategic alliance with Israel and its announcement that it will extend economic assistance to the Zionist state to tidy it over the present crisis reflects Washington's determination to maintain its hostility towards the Arabs.

# Gemayel: Shy homereturn from Washington

By David Betts

Reuter

BEIRUT — Moves by neighbouring countries and the superpowers ostensibly meant to bring peace to Lebanon often have the opposite effect. Western diplomats and sources close to the Lebanese government said Monday.

Many believe that Saturday's U.S. air raids against Syrian targets in central Lebanon and the militia attacks that followed against U.S. Marines in Beirut merely accelerated the sequence of retaliation and reprisal, so familiar in Lebanon.

President Reagan said Sunday that the raids by 28 carrier-based bombers did not mean the United States wanted war in the region.

"Our mission remains what it was — to help stabilise the situation in Beirut until all the foreign forces can be withdrawn and until the government of Lebanon can take over the authority of its own territory," he said.

However, within hours, heavy fighting was raging in many parts

of Lebanon as the opponents of U.S. policy and presence struck back at any targets they could find. U.S. Marines at Beirut Airport came under intensive rocket and artillery fire and, driven into their bunkers, had to call upon the U.S. Sixth Fleet offshore to silence their attackers with heavy guns. By then eight Marines had been killed.

The air raid was immediately condemned by many Muslim and leftist leaders in Lebanon, including Prime Minister Shafiq Al Wazzan, a Sunni Muslim.

"We condemn and reject whatever turns our land into an area of conflict," he said. "It is a link in the chain of aggravating complications of the Israeli occupation and the inability of Lebanon to regain control over all its territory."

The United States and Israel denied that the raid was worked out together as an attack on Syria. The Soviet Union's chief ally in the region. But a senior Israeli official who asked not to be named said it was part of a joint campaign to

fight Syria's presence in Lebanon. Many Lebanese feel aggrieved that President Amin Gemayel appeared to have been given little during a visit to Washington last week, apart from a promise of more help for the Lebanese army, compared with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir.

The United States and Israel announced last week they had agreed to boost political and military cooperation. Mr. Shamir referred to it as an unwritten alliance.

President Gemayel returned quietly to Lebanon Sunday via Paris. Apart from Mr. Wazzan's statement, the Lebanese government has made no comment on the air raids and the violent reprisals and counter-reprisals.

The influential Al Nahar newspaper called Monday in an editorial for a speedy return to the conference table in Geneva to talk about national reconciliation and prevent a slide into chaos.

It said the Sept. 25 ceasefire that ended a three-week war between the army and various militias was "doomed to deteriorate and

collapse if not followed by a speedy political agreement."

"Worse still, it establishes a state of 'no war, no peace' with people getting accustomed to limited violence."

Officials and diplomats looking for permanent peace in Lebanon took little comfort from a statement in Paris by U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger promising more air raids if Syria continued to fire on U.S. reconnaissance planes.

"This is a defensive measure that has to protect the necessary reconnaissance that has to be conducted nearly every day in this kind of situation, and is not a reprisal," he said.

Asked if there might be more raids, he said: "The rationale for this attack this (Sunday) morning would hold in the event that American planes doing defence reconnaissance were fired on again."

Leftist groups and opposition politicians regard as one of the main stumbling blocks in the path towards peace the May 17 troop-withdrawal agreement bet-

ween Lebanon and Israel.

The U.S.-backed accord, signed after four months of negotiations, called for the withdrawal of the 25,000-strong Israeli army from southern Lebanon provided Syria withdrew its 40,000 troops from eastern and northern Lebanon.

The deal was bitterly opposed by Syria at the time and has soured Lebanese-Syrian relations ever since.

Syria maintains that by agreeing to allow the Israelis the right to take part in joint security patrols in southern Lebanon the Beirut government infringed Lebanon's sovereignty, threatened Syria's security and damaged pan-Arab relations.

Last week in Washington Mr. Reagan and Mr. Shamir reaffirmed U.S.-Israeli commitment to the agreement, and Mr. Gemayel also appeared to endorse it, at least until a better alternative can be worked out.

Syrian reaction to Sunday's U.S. air assault was to call for international and Arab action against what Foreign Minister Abdul

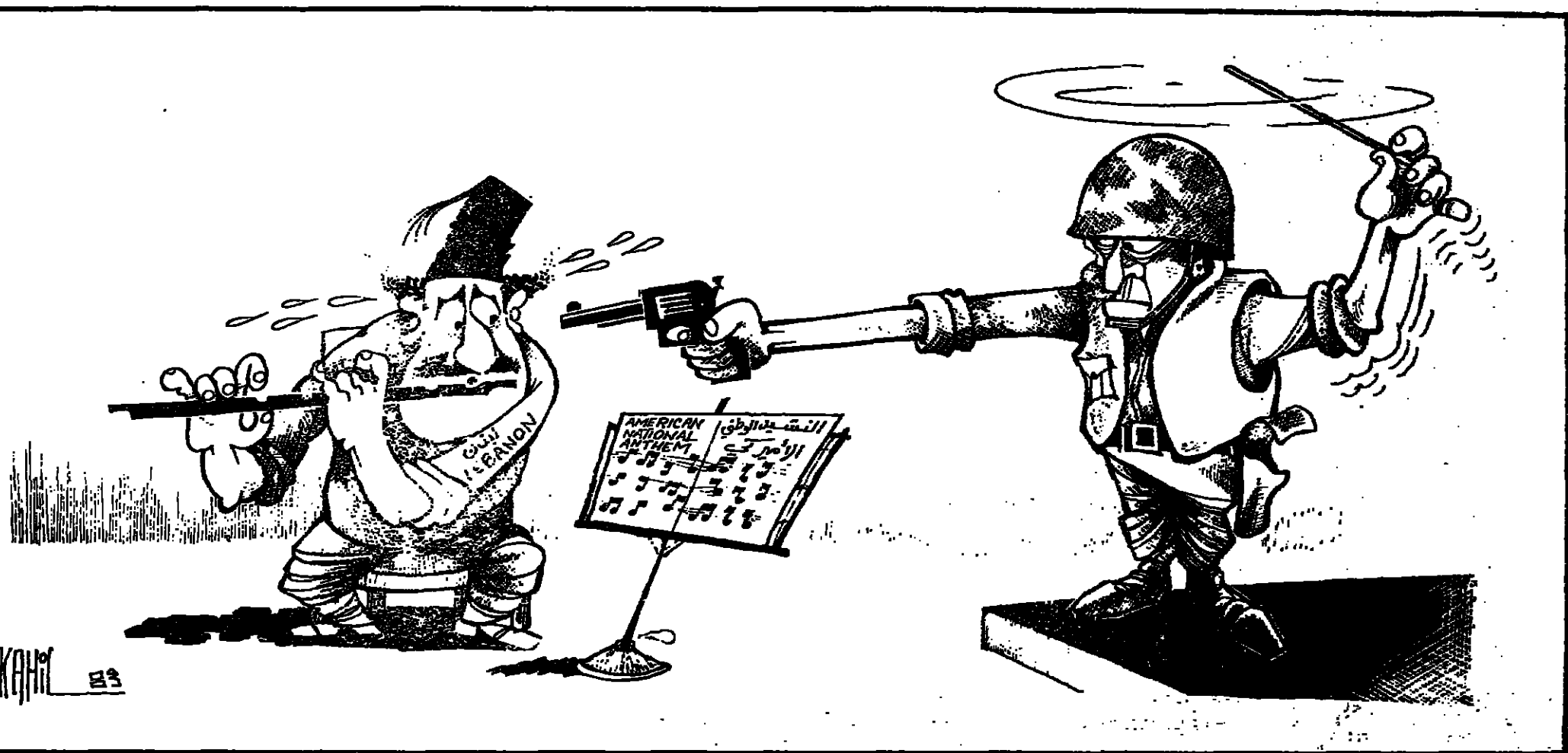
Halim Khaddam called America's aggressive policy in Lebanon and the Middle East.

He called it an escalatory military move and said: "These aggressive actions mask the United States political aims in the region, its plots and the role of its forces in Lebanon and the Mediterranean."

The helplessness of the U.S. Marines during Sunday night's fierce bombardment of their bunkered positions raised questions again about the effectiveness of the Multinational Force sent to Lebanon last year.

The U.S. and French contingents lost 297 men killed in twin suicide bomb attacks on headquarters buildings on Oct. 23 and since then much of the action of the Multinational contingents has been defensive.

Looking at sandbagged barricades on roads around the French embassy, a Lebanese businessman grumbled: "They were supposed to be coming here to keep the peace, but all they seem to do is block streets."



## Non-loyalists repent in Khomeini's dungeons

THE SHAH'S gaol, Evin, became a synonym of horror. It remains suspect under the regime of Ayatollah Khomeini, in spite of claims that it is an Islamic re-education centre. Andrew Veltch, in Tehran, reports on a visit to the prison.

The Shah built Evin prison high on a hill in north Tehran for the use of his secret police, Savak. Now it is the Kingdom of the Revolutionary Prosecutor General, Asadollah Lajevardi, accuser, gaoler, and according to his enemies, torturer and executioner: a short thick-set man, his face hidden behind a black beard and glasses, a combat jacket flung over his shoulders.

Officially, there are 3,000 prisoners here, men and women, girls and boys, all terrorists. Unofficially, there are 6,000 or more at any one time, some of them hostages. Officially, more than 5,000 have been executed since the revolution, the majority here at Evin. Unofficially, prisoners have talked of 400 being shot in one night.

The gates were opened last month to allow 270 visiting doctors, in Tehran for a medical conference sponsored and paid for by the government, to see for themselves that tales of torture were nothing more, as the prosecutor put it, than Western propaganda. The goal, he said, was a place where terrorists were taught the true ways of Islam: where they confessed their sins and repented: it was not a gaol, it was a university. We could talk to any of the prisoners, he said. If a prisoner said he was innocent, there were files in the office to prove his guilt. But, regrettably, the office was locked at this time, so we would not be able to see them.

"In Evin we only imprison terrorists," said the prosecutor. "They belong to the Tudeh Party (the Communists) and other minorities. Prisoners with other criminal diseases are in other prisons."

Inside the gates, 100 women had been paraded in a line, waiting for arrival. The courtyard was dark and cold. Only their eyes showed through their chadors. Their black cloaks reached to the ground.

They broke into a perfectly drilled chant: "Imam Khomeini, to pay for our crimes, we have to become the wall in front of the fighters at the front... Down with the U.S. ... Down with the Communist Party ... Down with the Mojahadin ... With the help of God's Party, the prison has been

come a university ... Imam Khomeini. God be with you, we don't have anything against you in our heart."

There were no chains, no handcuffs — there were children. A baby clinging to a mother's breast; a boy of about seven, a brass key hanging on a string round his neck, clutching his mother's hand; a little boy, perhaps four years old, in a yellow jump suit and a woolly bonnet, joining in the chant, thrusting his fist into the air in the universal revolutionary salute — only here in Evin it is the salute of obedience.

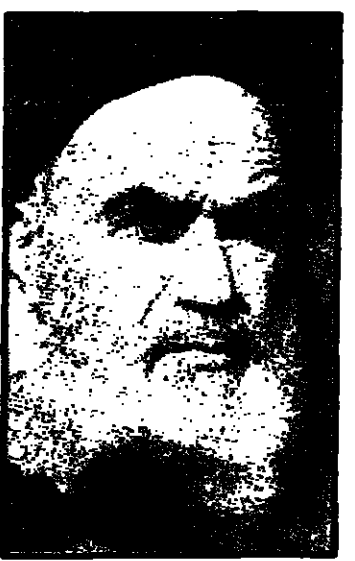
In the workshops, one for men, another for women, the night shift was sewing clothes — the women make the guards' uniforms, 80 women in one workshop. They clutched their veils about their faces. Their eyes were not the eyes of grown women, they looked so young, like girls in their teens. One sat at her sewing machine with tears rolling down her cheeks. I asked her why. "I am very sinful," she said.

We were led to the prayer hall, the Jamat, the meeting place — in a British prison it would perhaps be called a concert hall. An enormous painting of Khomeini hung above the stage. Pictures of the other Ayatollahs lined the walls. The floor was carpeted.

There were more than 500 black-robed women kneeling on one side of the hall. I counted 15 children. The youngest was eleven months old. The baby's mother told me she had been arrested nine days after the baby was born. She had been accused of working for the Mojahadin. She did not want to give her name. I asked how long she would be in prison. "I don't know," she said. "I have not had the formal hearing yet." She was frightened. An official arrived. The interview was over.

A low curtain separated the women from the men. More and more men arrived until there were almost 1,500 people in the hall. There were guards, but I saw no guns.

What sounded like prayers turned to chants: the women singing a verse, then the men. There was a drumming sound, as though they were beating the floor. Then I saw they were beating their hearts,



hard continuously, with their fists. These "terrorists and Communists," as the Prosecutor had described them, were cursing the Mojahadin, repenting their sins, praising the Imam, swearing their loyalty to the Islamic revolution.

One of the repenters was Mehman Asadaghi, aged 23, arrested seven months ago for his part in the alleged torture and murder of three Revolutionary Guards. He told me he had been the military commander of the Tehran section of the Monafeghin guerrillas. He had confessed it on television. He said he had been involved in a plot to kill Khomeini's son, and had attempted to kill the commander of the police force. He had helped to torture the Revolutionary Guards by binding them with cables, pouring hot water on their feet, breaking their feet, and injecting them with cyanide — two of the guards were still alive when they were buried, he said.

Asadaghi is due to be sentenced later this month. It is thought likely that he will be shot. I asked another prisoner who described himself as a former guerrilla leader, Abolghasem Esmansheri, aged 30, why they had not been executed already: "Islam does not want to kill people," he said. "It wants to re-educate them, to use them to serve the revolution. We will be here until the Governor (the Revolutionary Prosecutor) realises that we will not harm society anymore, that we have become useful members of society."

A tall, thin, studious man was led to me. He wrote down his name as Vahid Savidghalan, aged 34, and he said that he had belonged to the Union of Iranian Communists which had staged an uprising in the northern city of Amol in late 1981, and that he had a degree in maths from Kansas University.

He spoke calmly, quietly: "Sixty of us were killed or arrested in the uprising. We were trying to build a liberated area from the mountains to the city. We thought the people of the city would support us. The reverse happened. Twenty or 30 members of the party returned to the forest but could not hold out. They came down to the city and were arrested."

Why had he not been executed? The file had not been completed, I was told. It would eventually be sent to court, and it would be for the court to decide his fate. I understand that along with Esmansheri, this man is due to be sentenced later this month.

The chanting, the repentance, the beating of chests, went on for nearly an hour. The children with their mothers were docile. They demanded nothing. They watched, occasionally they mouthed the words.

The Prosecutor was asked if we could see the torture cells. They were the Shah's cells and they had been destroyed, he said. No one was tortured in his gaol. Stories that girls had been raped before they were shot were Western propaganda, he said: and no virgins had been executed either.

The report from the International Federation of Human Rights that prisoners sentenced to death had been drained of blood for the benefit of wounded soldiers was also propaganda, he said. "Go and ask the blood transfusion service. The prisoners are asked if they wish to donate blood and they give blood voluntarily."

And the children? "The prison is like a hotel," said the prosecutor. "Small children live here with their mothers. It is the wish of the sisters. They want to bring their children with them. In other countries conditions are so bad you cannot keep an animal. In this place everyone can be educated."

I was told later that the prison also acts as an orphanage. I was also told, although I have no way of proving it, that some of the women with children were being held to force their husbands to give themselves up.

A statement from a sister was

read out. She said she had been six months pregnant when she was arrested. The conditions in prison were so good that for the first four months she had kept her baby with her. "Then I sent my baby outside to grow up. That was my preference."

I listened as one of the doctors, a European paediatrician, attempted to find out from a group of mothers how their children were treated. Were they given good food? Did mother and baby share a room? The answers were beginning to come when an official arrived. The women, who were beginning to open up, became quieter. The translated replies

became non-committal, vague. The paediatrician gave up.

The mass repentance we witnessed in Evin could have been faked. Clearly, the presence of women and children in the hall guaranteed a measure of obedience. We saw, at most, half the prisoners and less than half of the prison.

But if it was genuine, and many psychologists and psychiatrists who saw it believe it was, it was a demonstration of the awesome power of Khomeini and of the Islamic Revolution — a power that has been misunderstood and hence underestimated, by many in the West. — The Guardian.

## LETTERS

### Wait a minute Mr. Cabby

To the Editor:

It is difficult to express my joy on reading your article 'Capital's taxis and their zealous drivers: what a way to start a day' by Inad Khairallah (Jordan Times, Nov. 27, 1983).

Somewhat I wanted for a long time to complain, scream and shout aloud through your newspaper. Arabic language being my failure to retaliate directly to the cabby, anyway I did go through a miserable ordeal one day as I was assigned to visit a foreign embassy in Jabal Amman. The company where I worked called for a taxi; I had to submit some papers and return to the office by the same taxi, the cabby being duly informed of all the procedure.

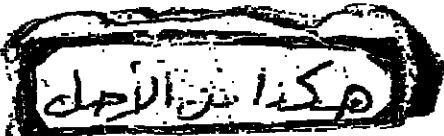
I stepped into the cab with a pleasant 'Marhaba' accompanied by a sweet smile which was returned by a grunt — or at least it sounded like one. I reached my destination; the cabby ordered me to move out and pay him his fare. In my broken Arabic I managed to tell him that the cab had been hired by the company and his charges would be paid by the company. He refused. Not wanting to start an argument in the morning, I decided to pay him. Unfortunately I did not have change, just a JD 10 note.

It is beyond my ability to express the words the cabby spilled out over not having change. He drove on to every nook and corner for "frata", but was refused with a pleasant: "La walla mafi". He then decided to drive me on to a petrol station which was less than a 100 metres from the office. Being unable to guide him, I was forced to ask him to take me back to the office. Only then could he manage to change the JD 10 note to charge me double the fare: One and a half dinar to be exact.

I could no longer control my temper, so I asked him to pay me the extra money back; he refused to peppering me with the most obscene words. I was totally helpless; all I could do was bang his door, hoping against hope not to see his face again.

I really wish that cabby drivers were first taught their manners, and how to treat a woman with respect before given a driving licence.

Ms. O. D'Souza,  
Amman.





# Controversy engulfs future of British Health Service

By Nicholas Phythian  
Reuter

LONDON — Britain is locked in debate over the future of its state-run National Health Service with doctors saying they are having to leave patients to die because of lack of money.

Opposition parliamentarians and trade unionists have launched campaigns to protect the service, which offers virtually free health care for all Britain's 54 million people.

Some critics have accused Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and her Conservative government of hatching covert plans to dismantle it and replace it with private health insurance.

The debate, which has cast a shadow over the first few months of Mrs. Thatcher's second term of office, has its roots in a government bid to control the economy by curbing state spending.

But it is also part of a wider debate about government plans for Britain's welfare state, which has provided health care and a welfare safety net since 1948.

Mrs. Thatcher, who came to power in 1979 and won re-election with an increased parliamentary majority in June, says the health service is safe in Conservative hands.

But her government has unveiled a series of measures which health officials say force them to limit, suspend or even end services because of lack of money.

First it imposed strict limits on spending, ensuring that they kept within their budgets.

Then it called for a cut of almost one per cent in the work force,

saying there must be scope for manpower savings in the largest employer in Western Europe.

In the event, it settled for a one half of one per cent cut in the work force of around one million but health officials say doctors' and nurses' jobs will be among the 4,800 that will go.

In its defence, the government says spending on state health care has almost doubled to £15.5 billion (\$23.2 billion) a year since it came to power in 1979.

It argues that the £50 million (\$60 million) a year saving from job cuts will go on patient care.

But many inside the service say the government squeeze is forcing them to cut services that are already inadequate.

One of Britain's leading kidney specialists, Anthony Wing, says doctors have to watch 2,000 kidney patients die every year for want of £50 million (\$75 million) for dialysis and transplants.

"Limited facilities for treatment have made it necessary for British physicians to practise selection to a degree which seems strange, even barbaric, to our colleagues in other civilised countries," he wrote in the British Medical Journal.

Another specialist said 50 heart patients in his care could die because he lacked funds to buy sufficient pacemakers.

A third said he was having to turn away critically ill babies from a leading London hospital because it lacks the money and space to treat them.

The British Medical Association, which represents almost two thirds of Britain's 71,000 doctors, says it is worried about the

squeeze and the prospect of further cuts.

The Royal College of Nursing, which represents half Britain's 450,000 nurses, says the government is demanding too much, too quickly, and warns that patient care will suffer.

Both are conducting surveys to show just what effect the squeeze is having on patient care.

One London kidney specialist has gone further and urged colleagues to join him in securing official investigation of cases where patients die because of spending cuts.

"If a patient in my care dies because I'm unable to offer him treatment due to cuts in the health service I would refuse to sign the death certificate and would refer the case to the coroner," he told reporters.

The Welfare State, a legacy of the radical reforming Labour government elected in the aftermath of World War II, swallows a growing share of the nation's wealth each year.

This year, the government will spend over 40 per cent of its £120 billion (\$180 billion) budget supporting it.

But a study by a London charity foundation suggests that the health service, which accounts for just one third of welfare spending, provides health care more cheaply than alternative systems in most other Western countries.

It says health care in Britain costs an estimated £420 a head compared with £1,520 in the United States.

For that, all Britons get free medical care, apart from some charges for drugs, spectacles or

dental work.

Public opinion polls suggest that most Britons want the government to pump more money into state health care.

But the ruling Conservatives are split between those who are anxious to redeem a 1979 election pledge to cut personal taxes and those who want to maintain welfare cover at a time of near record unemployment.

Mrs. Thatcher herself, despite a pledge to roll back Socialism in Britain, said in June: "I have no more intention of dismantling the National Health Service than I have of dismantling Britain's defences."

But her government has taken steps to privatise some aspects of the service in a bid to trim spending.

Social Services Secretary Norman Fowler has urged health officials to ask private companies to clean or cook in hospitals where this would save money.

Health Minister Kenneth Clarke, his deputy, has advised them to farm out some patient care to the private sector.

But some moderate Conservatives have grave misgivings. "I think it is the height of political folly to attack or tinker with an institution that is as popular and important," former cabinet Minister Norman St-John Stevas said.

A growing number of Britons, disenchanted with national health waiting lists, are opting for private health care and health insurance companies have almost doubled the number of people on their books to over four million since 1980.

## 'Leaks': A long-standing problem in U.S.

By Richard K. Willard

WASHINGTON — Classified information is unlawfully disclosed to the U.S. media with startling frequency. These unlawful disclosures, commonly called "leaks," damage U.S. national interests by providing valuable information to adversaries and by impairing the conduct of American national security policy.

President Reagan's directive to protect against these unlawful disclosures deals solely with classified information. By executive order, classification cannot be used to conceal violations of law, inefficiency, or administrative error, or to prevent embarrassment to a government agency or employees.

The unauthorized disclosure of

classified information has been specifically prohibited by a series of executive orders dating back to 1940. Virtually all such disclosures are also likely to violate one or more federal criminal statutes. While enactment of a new criminal statute could be useful in some cases, it is clear that leaks are already against the law.

There is no (constitutional) First Amendment right to leak classified information to the press. Government employees who are entrusted with such information have a fiduciary duty to protect it from unauthorized disclosure. The president's directive makes it clear that employees who deliberately violate this trust will be denied further access to classified information. Additional administrative

sanctions can include demotion or firing. None of the provisions in the directive is totally new. What it requires is more uniform application of practices that are already followed in parts of the government.

For example, the polygraph is already used on a regular basis in our intelligence agencies and for certain purposes elsewhere in the government. The new directive authorizes a limited expansion in the use of this technique to investigate unlawful disclosures.

Another provision increases the number of government employees who are required to sign agreements for pre-publication review of future writings. Such agreements have been used by the

Central Intelligence Agency for years, and in 1980 the Supreme Court approved their use in *Snepp vs. United States*. The sole purpose of pre-publication review is to permit deletion of classified information before it is made public. This programme does not permit the government to censor material because it is embarrassing or critical.

Unlawful disclosure of classified information is a long-standing problem. President Reagan's directive is not expected to solve the problem overnight. We do expect that it will improve our ability to enforce the law, and, over time, reduce the frequency and seriousness of such disclosures. USA

## 'Reagan abusing Freedom of Information Act'

By John Henry Faulk

WASHINGTON — President Reagan ought to be ashamed of himself. One moment he is posturing and pronouncing in his best open "I'm really sincere" manner about the need for good government and making it responsible to the people. In the next breath, he's doing his best to sabotage the Freedom of Information Act, one of the most crucial protections that the people have against the abuse of power by the federal bureaucracy.

What does President Reagan think brought about the act in the first place? It was public outrage over high-handed abuse of power by persons in the federal government. Surely he's aware that scarcely a week passes without a

new revelation of wrongdoing by a government body coming to light, thanks to the Freedom of Information Act.

A prime example of the act's efficacy is my own Federal Bureau of Investigation file. I managed to get it several years ago under the act's provisions. The file consists of some several hundred pages, stretching over 30 years of political surveillance (if one can properly describe the systematic collection of gossip, distortions, misrepresentations and outright lies as surveillance).

In all the hodgepodge of nonsense and distorted facts in the file, there is not a scintilla of evidence to be found that the FBI ever suspected me of having violated the law or of any criminal

behaviour whatever.

There is, however, an abundance of evidence that (former FBI Director) J. Edgar Hoover and his minions not only flagrantly violated the law but cold-bloodedly collaborated with third parties and political opponents of mine to do my reputation great hurt and harm. All of this revelatory was carried on without my knowledge and was only discovered years later through the Freedom of Information Act.

The file reveals a vindictive, power-mad public official, J. Edgar Hoover, carrying out a vendetta against a private citizen. And that is about all.

Friends of mine who are former FBI agents have examined the file; they estimate that the com-

pilation over 30 years represents tens of thousands of dollars of taxpayers' money (including mine), absolutely wasted.

When the new constitution of the United States was sent out to be ratified, the cry went up that it had no Bill of Rights. The constitution's opponents were quite vocal in their distrust of a federal government with so much power. The proponents promised that if the constitution were ratified, one of the first acts of government would be to amend it to protect the people against the tyrannical use of power by government. And the erosion of those guaranteed freedoms during the McCarthy period made the Freedom of Information Act an absolute necessity. USA

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## 121 nations go into World Soccer Cup draw

**ZURICH (R) — Just 17 months after Italy's 1982 triumph, 121 nations go into Wednesday's draw for the qualifying rounds of the 1986 World Soccer Cup.**

By the time the 13th finals are staged in Mexico, the tournament will be down to 24 teams, 14 from Europe, four from South America and two each from Africa, Asia Oceania and North-Central America and the Caribbean.

As holders, Italy enjoy the luxury of automatic qualification for the finals, leaving the other 32 European nations to battle it out for the 13 available places.

A European Football Union (UEFA) source said they would be drawn in seven qualifying sections comprising four five-team groups and three of four teams. The first two in the larger groups and the winners in the other three will go to Mexico while the runners-up in the four-team groups will play-off for the remaining two places.

The 32 Europeans will be split into five seeding categories based on their performances in the 1982 World Cup and the 1984 European Championship.

Probable candidates for inclusion in the top-seeded category are West Germany, runners-up to Italy, France, Poland, Soviet Union, England, Austria and Belgium.

The second tier could embrace Northern Ireland, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, Scotland, Denmark and Spain.

All 10 South American countries have entered and sources close to FIFA said they will be split into three groups, two of three and one of four, with Brazil, Argentina and possibly Uruguay seeded.

The group winners would then

be Mexico-bound with the three runners-up meeting for the fourth qualifying place.

But there is a chance the 10 South Americans could compete in a League with the top four going through to the finals.

With Mexico qualifying as hosts, there is only one place available to the remaining 17 nations who have entered from the North-Central American and Caribbean (CONCACAF) Confederation.

Reports suggest the previous zonal divisions based on geography have been scrapped and FIFA General Secretary Joseph Blatter told Reuters in an earlier interview that he favoured an all-in draw.

The African Confederation with 29 entrants is anticipating a two-leg cup system with a com-

plete draw to find the continent's two representatives.

As in the 1982 competition, Asia-Oceania will be composed of different groups to find its two qualifiers from the 31 entrants, boosted by the late entries from Jordan and Lebanon.

A source close to FIFA said the Asians were becoming increasingly restive because the winners of their preliminary sections had to join the winner of the Oceania eliminator in a final round to decide the two eventual qualifiers.

FIFA would have to look at the possibility of moving the three Oceania entries, Australia, New Zealand and Taiwan to another confederation, the sources said.

With UEFA no longer willing to accommodate Israel, FIFA intends moving them to the Oceania section. Israel are not affiliated to any confederation after their resignation in 1977 and subsequent expulsion from the Asian Confederation.

## UEFA Cup should produce a night to remember

**LONDON (R) — A quarter of a century ago, before jet travel took the mystery out of it, European soccer ties were magical occasions of frosty nights, shimmering floodlights, and wonderful players from far off lands.**

Such matches are now commonplace. Even so, Wednesday's European Football Union (UEFA) Cup third round second-leg tie between Glasgow Celtic and Nottingham Forest should be one to cherish.

The fact both clubs are British is incidental. It will be Scotland versus England, playing for a place in the UEFA Cup quarter-finals in front of 65,000 fanatical spectators — over 58,000 of whom will be standing — at Parkhead.

Nor is the clash of the two former European Cup winners in Glasgow the only tie with an air of magic about it.

Few could fail to be excited by the prospect of Bayern Munich of West Germany, Champions of Europe from 1974-76, travelling to London guarding a slender 1-1

lead over Tottenham.

A capacity crowd of 50,000 will pack the White Hart Lane terraces to watch Karl-Heinz Rummenigge and Glenn Hoddle, keeping one eye on the Tottenham substitutes' bench where little Osvaldo Ardiles will be waiting to make his return after nine months of injury.

But the night belongs to Glasgow and Parkhead stadium, a cauldron of noise and emotion and the scene of so many memorable European ties in the past.

Brian Clough's Forest, a pale imitation of the side which lifted the Champions' Cup in 1979 and 1980 but still one of the most professional outfits in the land, were held to a goalless draw in the first leg and will not relish their trip north of the border.

Celtic, too, exist on past memories, particularly of 1967 when Jock Stein's brilliant attacking side thrillingly beat Internazionale of Italy in one of the truly great European Cup finals.

For better or worse, Charlie Nicholas has moved on to Arsenal but Forest still have to contend with Paul McStay, a 19-year-old with the vision of Jim Baxter and the tenacity of Billy Bremner.

Clough has admitted Forest were fortunate to emerge from the first leg on level terms and if McStay can gain control of the midfield, as he did in Nottingham, Celtic's name should go into the hat when the draws for the quarter-finals of all three competitions are made in Zurich on Friday.

Tottenham, UEFA Cup winners in 1972, will also be narrow favourites to advance to the last

eight at the expense of Bayern.

Hoddle, so disappointing in the first leg, always blossoms on home soil and with Steve Archibald back at his very best in front of goal the West German face a fraught 90 minutes.

Holders Anderlecht of Belgium and Internazionale should also qualify, although it remains to be seen if the Italians will be allowed to continue in the competition.

They are awaiting the findings of a UEFA inquiry into an alleged bribery attempt in their second round tie against Dutch club Groningen and although they should overturn Austria Vienna's 2-1 first-leg advantage they could be thrown out later this month.

Inter's problems do not end there. Midfielder Graziano Bini pulled a thigh muscle during the 1-1 draw at Avellino on Sunday and will probably sit it out along with suspended international defender Giuseppe Bergomi.

The one consolation for the Milanese is that they will at last be able to return to the magnificent San Siro stadium after having to play the home legs of the first two rounds on neutral ground because of misbehaviour by their fans in last season's Cup-Winners' Cup.

Anderlecht, too, know all about crowd trouble. They were held to a 1-1 draw by Lens in France in the first leg when goalkeeper Jacques Munaron, distracted by a missile, allowed a pass-back from Danish international Kenneth Brylle to slip under his foot and into the net.

The French are likely to suffer the consequences for their fans' rash action.

### U.S. Olympic visa vetting under fire

**VIENNA (R) — Czechoslovakia said on Tuesday the United States was breaking international law by politically vetting competitors in the 1984 Olympic Games at Los Angeles.**

The official Czech News Agency quoted the Communist Party daily Rude Pravo as saying the United States had prepared questionnaires for competitors applying for visas to go to Los Angeles

for the summer Olympics.

"One of the questions concerns the political affiliation of the applicant and this is at variance with international law," it said.

Rude Pravo said the games should be an affair of the entire people and urged the United States to do what Yugoslavia was doing for the winter Olympics at Sarajevo — waiving entry visas for Olympic competitors.

### India out to make amends

**JAMSHEDPUR, India (R) — World Cup winners India, smarting after three successive defeats, will be eager to repair their dented pride when they meet the rampant West Indian cricketers in the fourth one-day international here on Wednesday.**

The Indians have suffered a series of maulings at the hands of their guests and trail 3-0 in the five-match one-day series and have lost two of the first four tests.

West Indian captain Clive Lloyd is certain to retain his fearful battery of pace bowlers who have battered the Indian batting line-up into submission in most of the matches played on this tour so far.

Malcolm Marshall, probably the quickest in the world at present, spearheads an attack which is expected to comprise Andy Roberts, Michael Holding and a fourth pacer.

Off-spinner Roger Harper may

also be included to add variety after his fine all-round performance with bat and ball in the West Indians' last 'three-day' match which ended on Monday. Harper took eight wickets and scored 37 runs as the West Indies raced to an innings victory over East Zone.

Master Viv Richards and openers Gordon Greenidge and Desmond Haynes have all produced big scores in recent matches to strengthen an already formidable batting line-up headed by Lloyd himself.

Indian skipper Kapil Dev leads a demoralised team only slightly consoled by star middle order batsman Mohinder Amarnath's recent return to form.

Amarnath, who played a leading role in India's triumph in the World Cup in England last summer, broke a lean spell in the last one-day match in Indore last week. He scored 54.

### Kasparov levels series against Viktor Korchnoi

**LONDON (R) — Russian chess prodigy Gary Kasparov leveled his World Championship elimination match against Soviet defector Viktor Korchnoi Monday night by winning the sixth game.**

Korchnoi, left with king and rook against king and queen, resigned after the 20-year-old Kasparov's 77th move.

Korchnoi won the first encounter in the 12-game series, which was followed by four draws. The score now stands at 3 to 3.

Rash play after adjournment brought Korchnoi a lost ending in which Kasparov promoted a pawn to a queen.

Korchnoi, 52, battled on for 11 moves after observers considered his position hopeless.

His defeat surprised experts as the adjourned position had been considered drawn by both camps and Korchnoi is a renowned virtuoso of the end game.

There was some speculation that Korchnoi had been trying to set traps to win a position where a draw was the most he could hope for. Such suicidal optimism has cost him dearly in previous title attempts.

Kasparov, 20, began the second session of the sixth game by reg-

aining material he had sacrificed on Sunday night and emerged with a positional advantage.

Korchnoi, playing white, had risked his lead in the series by attempting complex and dangerous moves in the first session.

In the other match, Soviet former World Champion Vasily Smyslov and Hungarian grandmaster Zoltan Ribli began their seventh game.

Once again Smyslov, 62, attacked with youthful vigour, piling the pressure on his 32-year-old opponent and leaving him in grave trouble at the adjournment.

As Ribli sealed his 42nd move expert opinion gave him little chance of escaping a defeat which would put Smyslov ahead 4½ to 2½ in the 12-game series.

The winners of the two matches will meet to determine a challenger to World Champion Anatoly Karpov of the USSR.

### Pakistan prepares for 3rd test

**ADELAIDE (R) — The Pakistan cricket team arrived in Adelaide Tuesday for the third cricket test against Australia starting on Friday and manager Intikhab Alam immediately ordered a rest day.**

Intikhab said his side would relax completely after Monday's confidence-boosting seven-wicket win over Victoria.

He said the players would have their first practice on Wednesday morning, possibly at the indoor nets if the weather had not improved.

Intikhab said 20-year-old batsman Saleem Malik, called to reinforce the side, would arrive on Wednesday. But whether he played on Friday hinged on the fitness of Mansoor Akhtar who was nursing a broken finger.

Acting captain Zaheer Abbas refused to discuss criticism of his leadership and said the tourists were not worried by attacks on their dismal showing in the first two tests.

### Durie tests Navratilova's supremacy

**MELBOURNE (R) — Britain's rising tennis star Jo Durie gave world number one Martina Navratilova food for thought overnight thought as rain halted their Australian Open quarter-final clash with Durie leading 6-4 on Tuesday.**

Durie, seeded eighth, was the first player to take a set off the top-seeded American since her compatriot and nearest rival Chris Lloyd in the Canadian Open final in August.

Navratilova, who is chasing the third leg of the Grand Slam, dropped only five games in her last two matches as she stormed thr-

ough to the last eight.

In an opening set peppered with service breaks, the 23-year-old Briton was trailing 3-0 and then 4-2 before she took a grip on her game and surprised Navratilova with a series of fine cross-court backhand passes and accurate volleys.

Durie, ranked eighth in the world now after her New South Wales Open win two weeks ago, broke the American's serve in the seventh game and took the next three before the referee called a halt to the day's play due to rain.

The winner of the tie will next meet American Pam Shriver, who had a comfortable victory over Canada's Carling Bassett 6-0, 6-1. Bassett, seeded 12th, was playing only her third grass court tournament and lacked the firepower to trade shots with third-seeded Shriver, a fast court specialist.

West German Sylvia Hanika, seeded to meet Navratilova in the final, fell surprise victim to American ninth seed Kathy Jordan who staged a remarkable fig-

hback to win their quarter-final match 7-6, 7-5.

The powerful West German had raced to an early 4-0 lead and appeared to have found a smooth path through to the semifinals.

But Jordan, who turned 24 three days ago, started to achieve more rhythm in her serve and switched tactics to attack the net. As she came under more pressure, Hanika faltered in her service games and Jordan fought her way through to a tie-breaker.

The American cruised to a 6-2 lead and clinched the first set as Hanika's return landed outside the baseline.

Jordan will meet the winner of the delayed quarter-final between fourth-seeded Australian Wendy Turnbull and American Zina Garrison, seeded sixth.

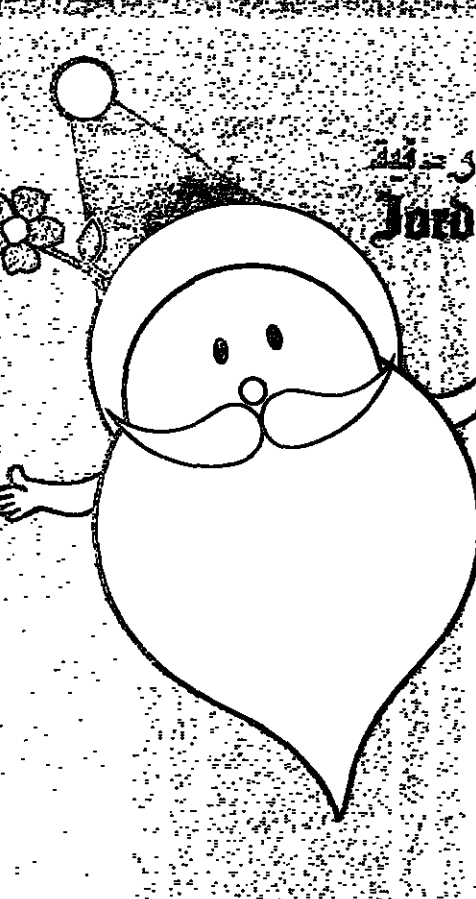
In the men's singles, Swedish Davis Cup player Joachim Nystrom was facing a straight sets defeat by young American Tim Mayotte, who captured the first two sets 6-4, 6-4.

### CAR FOR SALE

**EXTENSION OF LAST DATE FOR RECEIPT OF OFFERS**

Mercedes 230 Sedan, 1979 model, duty not paid; excellent condition. Can be inspected between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. every day except Friday at Indian Embassy. Offers in sealed cover must reach Mr. K.S. Bhandary before 2 p.m. December 12.

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**The "Alwaha" stores Management takes this opportunity to wish you a Merry Christmas and a happy New Year.**



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**TENDER No. 41/83**

**FOR THE SUPPLY OF TWENTY PACKAGE SUBSTATIONS**


Jordan Electricity Authority announces the availability of tender documents for tender No. 41/83 for the supply of twenty package substations.

One set of tender documents can be collected from the JEA main building between the 6th and the 7th Circles - Jabal Amman - against a non-refundable payment of JD 15 for one copy of tender documents.

JEA is prepared to send tender documents to contractors outside Jordan by airmail against the payment of the due fees as shown above.

The last date for receiving offers on this tender will be at 12:00 noon Saturday 14th January 1984. They should be submitted to the secretary of the tendering committee at the above address, offers should be accompanied by a bid bonds equal to five per cent of the tender price.

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مركز التجار







## WORLD

# Australian inquiry exonerates government over KGB affair

CANBERRA (R) — Australia's Labour government was justified in expelling a KGB agent for spying, an official enquiry reported Tuesday.

But the findings of the enquiry, tabled in parliament, criticised a senior government minister for leaking information from a cabinet meeting on diplomat Valery Ivanov shortly before the envoy was asked to go in April this year.

The minister, Mick Young, resigned following the leaks which the report said were unauthorised. Improper and gave rise to the danger of significant damage to national security.

But during an angry debate in Parliament on the findings of the inquiry, Prime Minister Bob Hawke defended Mr. Young and said he never intended to place national security at risk and would support his return as special minister of state early next year.

Opposition leader Andrew Peacock said the government's conduct in the affair had been

unprincipled, irresponsible, delinquent and negligent.

Mr. Peacock said Mr. Hawke had destroyed the integrity of Parliament and was putting the security of the nation at risk by calling for Mr. Young's return.

The enquiry, which sat for five months and examined all aspects of the country's security services, also found there was potential danger in Mr. Ivanov's close relationship with David Combe, the Labour Party's national secretary from 1973 to 1981.

The royal commission said it was clear Mr. Ivanov was cultivating Mr. Combe, who was running a political lobbying organisation. He perceived him to be sympathetic to certain aims of the Soviet Union with attributes that made him an attractive target.



Bob Hawke

The security services surveillance of Mr. Combe after Mr. Ivanov's expulsion was also justified, the inquiry found.

It also supported the cabinet's decision to deny Mr. Combe access to ministers because of the Australian Security Intelligence Organisation's (ASIO) concern that he was a security risk.

Mr. Combe said later in a statement that the report was a transparent whitewash of the ASIO and the federal government but added that it found he had breached no law, criminal or civil.

In Canberra, meanwhile, dockers tried to storm the Parliament Tuesday but were beaten back by baton-wielding police.

Fighting erupted when a group of about 20 men broke away from a crowd of more than 500 workers protesting at a government decision not to build a navy ship at their Sydney dockyard.

Defence Minister Gordon Scholes later met a union delegation and agreed to review options for new work at the dockyard. Union officials said that a 1,000 jobs were at risk.

Last year a 1,000 steel workers burst through a police cordon and broke down the main doors of parliament in a protest over lost jobs. Police were not issued with batons that day.

## Soviet setback reported from Kabul

ISLAMABAD (R) — Soviet and Afghan government troops retreated from a valley north of the Afghan capital Kabul last week after suffering heavy casualties in a major offensive against anti-government rebels. Western diplomats said here Tuesday.

The diplomats, quoted reports from their embassies in Kabul, said the rebels captured around two dozen Soviet soldiers alive.

They also shot down three helicopters and destroyed or disabled two to three dozen tanks and armoured personnel carriers in Gul-dara (flower valley) in the Shomali region, they said.

The diplomats had no firm estimate of the dead or wounded but said the casualties were reported to be heavy in the operation from Nov. 26 to Dec. 2. They said it was one of the most intensive battles of the year.

About 2,500 Soviet troops and a lesser number of Afghan troops involved in the offensive retreated from Gul-dara last Friday and three truckloads of the Soviet wounded were seen being driven to a Soviet military hospital in Kabul, the sources said.

The diplomats said the rebels suffered significant casualties but were jubilant at the outcome which they believed had avenged their rout in the region in October when the town of Istail was almost destroyed.

Civilian casualties were expected to be light as a large part of the population migrated to Kabul after the October fighting, they said.

The diplomats said they believe the October rout had galvanised the resistance groups to end their infighting and put up a united front against the Soviet and government troops.

Fighters from all resistance groups took part in the Gul-dara fighting as well as from the nearby Panjshir Valley where the rebels are led by well-known resistance commander Ahmad Shah Masood, the diplomats said.

They said unusually large number of Soviet MiG fighter planes and helicopters gave air cover to the troops accompanied with tanks, APC and BM-21 multiple rocket-launchers.

They quoted their sources as saying they had never before seen a greater use of MiGs and helicopters.

The diplomats said they had heard recently that Afghan rebels were having more success in shooting down Soviet helicopter gunships.

## Shuttle awaits Houston decision on next move

HOUSTON (R) — The space shuttle Columbia's crew Tuesday awaited the latest weather forecasts and a decision on whether their mission would be extended one day until Thursday.

If weather is forecast to be satisfactory at the landing site at Edwards Air Force Base, California, the Columbia will return on Thursday, 10 days after its launch from Florida.

Space agency officials were to tell the crew their decision Tuesday morning. If the touchdown is set Wednesday instead of Thursday, stowing of equipment and other final housekeeping activities would have to be done Tuesday.

Mission officials decided to try to extend the flight to enable more scientific work in the new space lab, a European-built laboratory carried in the shuttle's cargo bay.

The additional time would allow more work on experiments that measure the energy output of the sun. Fluctuation of solar output is believed to influence weather on earth.

Scientists who designed experiments for the spacelab have been described as "ecstatic" over results they have received.

"They're like little kids showing their new toys on Christmas," Dr. Richard Chappell, chief mission scientist, told a press conference Tuesday.

Dr. Chappell said exuberant scientists were stopping each other in the corridors of their Houston headquarters to report on the results already received from space.

Dr. Kurt Knott, the mission's chief European scientist, called the first flight of the billion-dollar spacelab a "super mission" from a scientific point of view.

Knott and Chappell, who headed a team of more than 100 scientists, called the mission "a turning point in science."

But West German space shuttle physicist Ulf Merbold swore in space Monday after throwing a wrong switch.

The accident shut off several experiments and, when he realised he could not immediately restart the instruments, he said in disgust: "Ah, fuck it."

Reporters on the ground heard his comment and it was published in the official mission transcript.

Mission commander John Young, who swore when he was on the moon in 1972, joked that he heard the remark "loud and clear" from where he was on the flight deck.

Mission scientists said Dr. Merbold's mistake did not have any adverse impact on the scientific experiments, but added that he had to spend several hours getting them working again.

## India arrests 4 former military men for spying

NEW DELHI (R) — Three senior retired military officers and a civilian have been arrested under the official secret act, Indian Defence Minister Ramaswami Venkataraman said Tuesday.

Mr. Venkataraman told the Upper House of Parliament those arrested were army Lt. Col. Jasbir Singh and two brothers, Army Maj. Gen. F.D. Larkins and Air Vice-Marshal K.H. Larkins, all retired. The civilian was named as Jaspal Singh Gill.

Opposition members had demanded a statement on a newspaper report accusing the Larkins of giving American diplomats top secret details of India's arms purchases from the Soviet Union.

Mr. Venkataraman said an investigation had been launched after an air force officer reported being offered a reward for giving classified information.

The minister did not mention the United States or its diplomats in his statement.

Asked if neighbouring Pakistan or the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) were involved, the minister replied that Parliament should await the end of the investigation.

"I would like to assure the house that steps have been immediately taken to prevent leakage of any classified information," Mr. Venkataraman said.

He said one precaution had been a ban on retired officers using the armed forces defence library which contains classified information.

Retired officers could now only have access with permission from the defence ministry.

The Indian Express newspaper reported Tuesday that the external affairs ministry was examining the role in the affair played by four American diplomats, two of them still in New Delhi.

## Sri Lankans start 'peace walk' to promote harmony

KATARAGAMA, Sri Lanka (R) — More than 5,000 people Monday left this sacred city on a 1,600 kilometre "peace walk" across Sri Lanka to promote harmony among the island's majority Sinhalese and minority Tamils.

The marchers, led by 100 Buddhist monks and Christian, Hindu and Islamic clergy, were all dressed in white.

Tension between the Sinhalese and Tamils erupted in bloody violence last July in which nearly 400 people, mainly Tamils, were killed.

The walk began at the historic Kirivehera Buddhist shrine.

Selected representatives of all religions and ethnic communities offered trays of white jasmine flowers at a ceremony at the shrine before the start of the walk.

A.T. Ariyaratne, leader of the march, said Monday night the government and leaders of all political parties had given their blessings to the march.

Mr. Ariyaratne, president of the Sarvodaya social service movement, said the march would pass through hundreds of villages and end at Nagadipa in the northern province after 118 days.

"The aim of the walk is provide a spiritual foundation to a solution. President (Junius) Jayewardene will provide the political foundation," he told a meeting Monday night at the 2,000-year-old Kirivehera shrine.

Mr. Ariyaratne said that between 5,000 and 30,000 people were expected to participate in the walk at any one time.

## S. Korea considers fate of 6 Chinese hijackers

SEOUL (R) — South Korean state prosecutors Tuesday asked an appeals court to increase jail sentences of up to six years imposed on five Chinese men and a woman who hijacked a Chinese airliner to South Korea in May.

The demand was made before Seoul's high court which also began considering a rival appeal by defence lawyers, who urged the hijackers should be freed and allowed to go to Taiwan on the grounds they are political refugees.

The prosecutors said the hijackers' jail terms should be increased to up to 10 years, as originally demanded, because their act of air piracy endangered the lives of innocent travellers.

The ninety-six Chinese passengers and crew aboard the plane returned home after negotiations that constituted the first official contacts between Peking and Seoul, which have no diplomatic relations.

Prosecutors Tuesday acknowledged the hijackers were political dissidents, but added, "those who threaten safe air travel aga-

inst the wish of all mankind must be punished severely regardless of their motives or ideologies."

But the hijackers and their lawyers said they should not have been found guilty as the hijack — the first successful one of a Chinese airliner since the communists took power in 1949 — was an emergency measure so they could defect to Taiwan.

The self-confessed hijack leader Zhou Changren, 35, who received the longest sentence of six years, said: "I am extremely dissatisfied with the way the Republic of Korea is handling us."

"We thought we would be allowed to go to Taiwan immediately as Korea is an anti-communist country and the Korean general we met on arrival assured us the Korean government was supporting and welcoming us," he said.

The hijackers, who shot two crew members in the leg, said the action was in self-defence because they were resisted with an axe and a wooden club.

## COLUMN

### Student dies after drinking bout

SYDNEY (R) — Scott Heaton, 18, died after drinking a bottle of whisky and 15 cans of beer at an end-of-term student party, his mother said Tuesday.

### U.K. study blasts Tory 'titles system'

LONDON (R) — Businessmen who donate company funds to Britain's ruling Conservative Party have an uncanny way of getting peerages and knighthoods from the government, a trade union research group said Tuesday. The Labour Research Department's report said there was a "remarkable correlation" between donations to the Tory Party and the award of honours to company directors. Publication of the report was timed to coincide with a bid Tuesday by Austin Mitchell, a Labour Party Member of Parliament, to bring in a law limiting political contributions by companies. The report said that of 41 businessmen honoured by Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's government in the past 1½ years, all eight of those made lords and at least 20 of those knighted were from companies which donated to the Conservative Party.

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## Sceptics doubt if Andropov is recovering

MOSCOW (R) — A senior Kremlin official has said President Yuri Andropov was recovering from an illness, but he gave no indication when the Soviet leader might reappear in public after an absence of over three months.

Leonid Zamyatin, head of the Communist Party's international information department, told an international news conference that Mr. Andropov was again working on Communist Party and government business.

Mr. Zamyatin's disclosure was later broadcast on Soviet television during the main evening news bulletin in a rare public men-

tion of the leader's health, which is usually not referred to despite being a source of speculation among Soviet citizens and Western Kremlin-watchers.

Mr. Zamyatin refused to give further details of Mr. Andropov's ailment and referred simply to an announcement last October that Mr. Andropov, 69, had a cold. "Yuri Vladimirovich Andropov is now recovering," he said.

He also refused to be drawn on when Mr. Andropov was likely to reappear in public. But he did say the Kremlin chief, who was last seen on Aug. 18, was running the Soviet defence council as well as

fulfilling his state and party roles.

Mr. Zamyatin also told the press conference, which was largely devoted to explaining the Soviet position on the siting of new U.S. missiles in Europe, that reports of Mr. Andropov having had an operation or being seriously ill were "insinuations" which did not correspond to the truth.

He said he had stated all "that was officially possible on the subject, a remark which further puzzled some Western diplomats looking for clues to the leader's con-

dition. There have been growing doubts on Mr. Andropov's health since he failed to appear at a Red Square military parade on Nov. 7.

Western diplomats said Mr. Zamyatin's comments would do little to ease speculation about Mr. Andropov's condition.

"If Andropov is recovering, why didn't Zamyatin say he would reappear," one diplomat asked.

He said it would have been easy to settle the debate about the Soviet leader by stating he would attend a parliamentary session due on Dec. 28.

## NATO details Soviet hi-tech thefts

BRUSSELS (R) — NATO military chiefs gave details Tuesday of what they called the Soviet Union's "overt and covert assault" to buy, obtain or steal Western high technology.

The Atlantic alliance's military committee said in a statement Moscow had saved itself billions of dollars in time and resources by acquiring information on a large number of modern Western weapons systems and computers.

It said Soviet agents tried to obtain such knowledge legally wherever possible.

"But they will not hesitate to obtain advantages by covert and illegal means wherever this be-

comes necessary and their organisation for the accomplishment of technology acquisition is truly formidable," it said.

The committee cited several examples of modern technology pilfered by the Soviet Union and its Warsaw Pact allies, such as design drawings of the French Mirage F-1 fighter plane and details of the West German Leopard-1 tank's engine.

Other Western weapons know-how obtained by Moscow included France's Thomson radar, the U.S. Honeywell laser gyroscope, the French Crotale low altitude surface-to-air missile and the Franco-German Milan anti-

tank weapon.

The military committee report, which contained no specific recommendations, was issued as NATO defence ministers gathered for a regular two-day meeting.

The statement said the Soviet leadership gave very high priority to acquiring Western technology using 47 foreign trade associations, more than 300 import-export firms and scientific committees as well as the KGB and GRU intelligence services.

Western embargoes aimed at stopping such technology leakage were avoided by the use of third countries, the statement added.

## Warsaw attacks Walesa



Lech Walesa

WARSAW (R) — Poland's communist rulers have decided a call to the West by solidarity leader Lech Walesa to lift sanctions imposed during martial law and resume financial aid for the country's stricken